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DISCUSSIONS BETWEEN NIGERIAN, IVORIAN DELEGATIONS

Bilateral Trade, ECOWAS Discussed

Abidjan FRATERNITE MATIN in French 2 Aug 81 p 3

[Excerpts] An important economic mission led by Amoakon Edjampan Thiemele, the minister of commerce, went to Lagos, Nigeria 26-29 July.

This delegation comprised 17 people, also including individuals who work with the minister, and 10 businessmen from the private sector representing six branches of activity: asphalt, vegetable oils, fatty substances and soap-making, the mirror business, tunafish canning, tires, and import-export.

The most important working session between the two delegations, chaired by (Nigerian) industries minister El Hadj Adamu Ciroma, with the minister of commerce as vice-chairman, was held on 28 July.

That meeting was followed by a long private talk between the two ministers. In his message to the Nigerian chief of state and people, the Ivorian commerce minister stressed the necessity of beginning the process leading to a new era of Ivorian-Nigerian cooperation.

"What matters," he maintained, "is for our two countries to strengthen their cooperation and relations so that ECOWAS [Economic Community of West African States] becomes a living reality."

In effect, the economic and political clout wielded by Ivory Coast and Nigeria predispose them quite naturally to the role of leadership of that vast 16-nation community.

After the official start of negotiations, the experts of the two countries met to study in detail the provisions of the commercial agreement.

The significant element was the mutual determination to reach the signing of that agreement. The Ivorian experts agreed to work from the document proposed by the federal Nigerian government.

The amendments proposed by the Ivorians were unreservedly accepted by the Nigerians, and the products Ivory Coast submitted for List B were adopted without restriction. List A, containing 27 Nigerian products, and List B, containing 43 Ivorian products, will account for most of the bilateral trade. The two countries also accorded each other "most favored nation" treatment.

In addition, the two delegations agreed that the draft agreement should be signed in Abidjan by no later than 3 August.

The Ivorian minister of commerce took advantage of his visit to acquaint himself with the prospects and measures established for eliminating customs restrictions among the 16 states of the community.

This problem, a basic one in the eyes of Minister Thiemele, was the subject of a working session between our delegation and two ECOWAS representatives, including Mr Seck, head of the division responsible for customs, trade and immigration, in the absence of the executive secretary, who was on another mission.

Mr Seck, in his clear and concise presentation, presented extremely valuable and instructive information to the official Ivorian delegation. The talks, which lasted an hour, made it possible to discuss in turn the various problems related to "tariff disarmament" and the elimination of non-tariff barriers.

On the first point, it was instructive to learn that since 1 May 1981 products grown from the earth and handicraft products have been circulating freely among the member states. The elimination of duties and barriers was in effect from that date.

Concerning industrial products, disarmament is gradual and follows a schedule going from 1 May 1981 to 1 May 1989.

With regard to commerce, the businessmen also had a well-filled schedule. An important working session brought them together at the Lagos chamber of commerce and industry, for a meeting during the course of which they were informed about various import prohibition measures enacted by Nigeria. The financing law of 20 May 1981 establishes new restrictions on importation and sets forth lists of the products that are prohibited, those that are unrestricted, and those that are subject to licensing, as well as the import duties on each.

The president of the chamber of commerce informed the Ivorian delegates that the chamber of commerce and industry was in favor of more flexibility in these measures, which were harmful to trade and to economic interests. The Ivorian businessmen also paid close attention to the conditions regulating establishment of foreign-owned companies.

Altogether, the commercial results might be estimated at more than F CFA 180 million, including vegetable oils, fatty substances, the glass-works, the mirror-works and textiles. Prospects are also encouraging for asphalt, tires, and fish canning.

Trade Statistics

Abidjan FRATERNITE MATIN in French 26 Jul 81 p 4

[Article by Felicien Kourouan]

[Excerpts] Ivorian sales to Nigeria went from F CFA 1,321 million in 1975 to F CFA 4,685 million in 1979. The principal export products remain soluble coffee, oil products, cola nuts, refined palm oil, veneer and plywood, etc.

As for our imports, they fluctuated considerably between 1975 and 1979. They reached their lowest level in 1976, at F CFA 1,990 million. Nigeria sells us, besides petroleum (98 percent of our purchases), fish netting, tires, etc.

Our trade balance with Nigeria has always been unfavorable. In 1977, however, it reached its worst level with a total of F CFA 14,754 million. Since that time, it has registered an overall mild improvement. Thus, the deficit which was 14,754 million in 1977 fell to 10,706 million in 1978 and to 9,474 million in 1979.

9516

CSO: 4719/275

INTER-AFRICAN AFFAIRS

BRIEFS

ECOWAS MEETING IN COTONOU--Cotonou, 17 Aug (AFP)--Two meetings of the ECOWAS ad hoc committees on trade liberalization and the financial system of member states will be held in Cotonou during the second half of August. The first meeting, which began on Monday, will define criteria to identify priority industrial products and draw up a list. The nine participating countries are: The People's Republic of Benin, Cape Verde, Ivory Coast, Ghana, Mali, Nigeria, Senegal, Sierra-Leone and Togo. This meeting is scheduled to end on 21 August. The second meeting will be held from 24 to 29 August. It will draft the specific list of import rights and duties, as well as indirect internal rights and duties in each member state. [Text] [AB171338 Paris AFP in French 1331 GMT 15 Aug 81]

CSO: 4719/293

ANGOLA

COMMUNIQUE CLAIMS DEFEAT OF SOUTH AFRICAN FORCE

EA181220 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 0500 GMT 18 Aug 81

[Defense Ministry communique issued in Luanda 17 August]

[Text] Following the violent aggression unleashed against our country by the South African racist forces as a result of the steps taken by our military units deployed in the southern region of the country to repulse this renewed aggression and defend the integrity of our fatherland, our glorious troops of the People's Armed Forces for the Liberation of Angola clashed with apartheid armed forces between Changongo and Cahama, over 100 km inside our country on 15 August.

In the fierce fighting the enemy forces suffered heavy losses, being forced to withdraw in disarray to the illegally occupied territory of Namibia. They left behind the body of a white South African soldier painted black. The enemy also abandoned three radio sets, 9 60-mm mortar bombs, 12 antipersonnel landmines, 2 hand grenades and other explosives.

In the fighting, one of our soldiers was killed and one of our vehicles was destroyed. Three civilians, passing through the area as the fighting was in progress, were also killed.

Meanwhile, the Angolan authorities are prepared to return the body of the dead South African soldier should the Pretoria racist government ask for it.

Death to the South African invader and his lackeys. The enemy will not take a single inch of our land. The struggle continues. Victory is certain!

CSO: 4728/101

ANGOLA

PEOPLE'S ASSEMBLY ADJOURNS, SUBJECTS REVIEWED

Luanda JORNAL DE ANGOLA in Portuguese 21 Jul 81 p 1

[Article by Manuel Augusto]

[Text] The People's Assembly, the highest body of government in the People's Republic of Angola [RPA] met in regular session for 3 days in Luanda to analyze and discuss various issues affecting the nation's life.

Under the presidency of Jose Eduardo dos Santos and attended by a majority of the deputies, the proceedings were divided into sessions open only to deputies and general sessions, at the end of which several laws and resolutions submitted by the assembly committees were amended and approved.

The General Labor Law, presented to the assembly in draft form, was unanimously approved, becoming an important legal instrument for productive-labor activity in the RPA and hence an essential arm of the Angolan working masses in defense of their rights and in the building of a nation of workers.

After extended and lively discussions, proposals for amendments and revision of some of its articles, this important document was approved, designating the rights and duties of all workers, permitting more scientific organization of labor according to the principles of the MPLA-Labor Party and finally revoking the colonial labor laws. The active and constructive participation of the deputies present throughout the discussion of the now approved law adds to its importance, reflecting, above all, the concern of the people's elected representatives to incorporate everything that respects the workers in the steadfast defense of their rights. In fact, regardless of their educational level or origin, the deputies were concerned with sufficiently clarifying every point of the law in which the workers' rights and obligations might come under question because of any problem of interpretation.

Defend Revolution, Resolve Most Pressing Problems

The People's Assembly deputies approved other important documents, such as the Wage System Law, the Amnesty Law, the Collateral Law and the General Population Census Law, in addition to other documents dealing with the function of the assembly itself and the rights and duties of the deputies, as well as the financial report for the fiscal year 1979.

For a more general view of the nation's problems and the factors involved in its economic development, on the last day of the proceedings the deputies heard and discussed a report presented by Planning Minister Lopo do Nascimento on the need to introduce some revisions in the 1981 National Plan. As President Jose Eduardo dos Santos had already noted in the opening session, the current international economic situation is characterized by a noticeable decline in the price of products that generate foreign exchange, such as petroleum and coffee. This situation and the continuing imperialist attacks against our country are the main reasons for the revisions in the plan.

For the same purpose, to give the deputies a more general view, Afonso Van-Dunem (Mbinda), coordinator of the assembly's Foreign Relations Committee, drew a broad picture of the current international situation, which is characterized by an intensification of the open confrontation between the forces for peace and progress and the forces of international reaction.

Study advised on Renunciation of Citizenship and on Social Security

Other items not initially included in the agenda were brought up by the deputies where relevant, specifically, regarding situations that have been occurring with greater intensity in the nation's capital.

Issues more national in scope were also brought up, such as the need for social security legislation and for closer study of the phenomenon of Angolans renouncing their citizenship. The results of these studies should be presented at the next session of the People's Assembly.

There were 3 days in intensive work in which it was clear to the deputies that they must find ways to solve the problems presented to the greatest benefit of the people.

6362
CSO: 4728/79

ANGOLA

IMPROVEMENT TO RAIL NETWORK DESCRIBED

Luanda JORNAL DE ANGOLA in Portuguese 17 Jul 81 p 2

[Text] Rehabilitation of the lines and installations of the nation's railway system (Luanda, Benguela and Mocamedes railways and the Amboim exchange), in accordance with a directive of the First Extraordinary Party Congress, will make it possible to overcome most of the problems confronting the rail sector.

The railway rehabilitation project, to be carried out over the next 4 years, includes acquisition of 280 freight cars, 67 coaches and 25 new locomotives for normal circulation and shunting.

Detailing the projects in statements to the ANGOP press agency, the national director of Angolan Railways reported that the "plan contemplates the design of the layout for the great North-South axis, a factor in strengthening national unity."

Speaking further about the projects, Armando de Sousa e Silva added that, within the framework of technical assistance, the Angolan Railways maintains relations of cooperation with Portugal, specifically, contracts already established for the repair and maintenance of material and for instruction and retaining of railway cadres in the various specialities in the sector.

Besides these cooperation accords, the railway transport official announced a project for creation of a National Professional Training Center for the various careers in the sector, in addition to the already existing centers.

Improvement of CFL Radiocommunications

Projects to improve the national railway network include creation of a radio communications system for the CFL (Luanda Railway), enabling more secure rail operations in 1982. There are also plans to build complementary maintenance facilities and to renovate the connecting rail line.

In addition to restoration of the CFL line, there are studies to extend a branch line almost 200 kms, establishing a link between Zenza do Itombe and Cacuso, including intermediate lines to the Kitungo iron mines, Kassala, Kissequel, Tumbi, and Saia.

Some changes will be made in the present route, because the deterioration of the existing infrastructures and rolling stock has hampered service on the line.

De Sousa explained in detail the new traffic system, which breaks down as follows: urban and interurban exchanges Luanda-Viana, followed by Viana-Zenza, Zenza-Cacuso and finally Cacuso-Malanje, the last station on the line. The route is somewhat over 400 kms long.

On the Cacuso-Malanje exchange, the Portuguese firm SOMAFEL is being entrusted with designing the entire renovation project, following up works based on studies for reactivation of the stone quarries to produce ballast and a plant to produce concrete crossties. The contracts will be finalized this year.

Benguela and Mocamedes Railways To Receive Modern Transport Equipment

According to the plan, the Benguela Railway, the important rail link with Zambia and Zaire, will receive significant locomotive equipment, namely, freight cars and newly acquired modern locomotives, to expand its transport capacity.

In his remarks to ANGOP, the national director of the Angolan Railways also mentioned improvement of the telecommunications system for the Mocamedes Railway. There are also plans to replace tracks and crossties and to rehabilitate the roadbed on the line.

The Amboim Railway is included in projects to renovate and rebuild the nation's rail system. The program includes maintenance and renovation of two imported diesel electric locomotives.

Concluding his statements, Arlindo de Sousa e Silva added that the locomotives which serve the Amboim Railway are currently inoperative because of a dispute with Moyse, the industrial plant which supplied them.

6362

CSO: 4728/79

PORTUGUESE HYDROGRAPHIC, OCEANOGRAPHIC COOPERATION

Praia VOZ DI POVO in Portuguese 21 Jul 81 pp 12, 5

[Excerpt] The Portuguese Navy's hydrographic ship, the "Almeida Carvalho," arrived in the port of Praia on the 6th of this month. It will remain in our country (the first that it has ever visited on a mission of this kind) until the 29th of this month under the terms of the cooperation agreement between Cape Verde and Portugal.

This scientific cruise by the "Almeida Carvalho" results from a decision reached at the fourth meeting of the Portuguese-Cape Verdian Permanent Joint Cooperation Commission, which considered it imperative that there be "specific action by Portugal" to satisfy the Republic of Cape Verde's needs in the areas of hydrography, oceanography, navigation, and ocean pollution.

The schedule for the scientific cruise by the "Almeida Carvalho," which is to visit every island except Fogo and Brava, includes the following in Praia: contact with the entities connected with shipping and ports, surveying the port of Praia, setting up a tide gage (a device for measuring the height of tides), doing sounding work, and determining the coordinates of conspicuous points and the wharf. On Maio Island, it will visit Porto Ingles to survey and research the port structures to be established there. It will then go to the islands of Boavista (Sal Rei) and Sal (Palmeira) to exchange impressions concerning the putting up of port structures. On Sao Nicolau Island, it will research the port structures to be built there and will also survey the port of Tarrafal. In the Janela region of Santo Antao Island, it will analyze problems related to the port and inspect the tide gage that exists there. On the 15th, the "Almeida Carvalho" will return to Sao Nicolau Island, where it will spend 5 days making a hydrographic survey of Tarrafal. From there it will go to Porto Ingles (Maio Island), where it will do the same thing, also over a 5-day period. At the end of its mission, the "Almeida Carvalho" will return to Praia to hold its final talks with Cape Verdian authorities and perhaps make a few recommendations. It is scheduled to leave for Lisbon on the 29th, conducting research projects along its course.

11798
CSO: 4728/92

CENTRAL AFRICA REPUBLIC

DACKO PRAISES SPIRIT, DYNAMISM OF ARMED FORCES

AB241029 Bangui Domestic Service in French 1830 GMT 22 Aug 81

[Address by CAR President David Dacko to the first paratroop intervention regiment at Kasa camp on 22 August--recorded]

[Text] Generals, senior officer, noncommissioned officers and soldiers of the CAR Armed Forces: First of all, I wish to congratulate you for the very beautiful performance we have just witnessed. I appreciated particularly the perfect organization of the entire show, the great quality of the displays and mock combats as well as the very smart turnout and dynamism of the officers and soldiers.

By its diversity and great quality, this display clearly demonstrated the progress you have achieved in the instruction and guidance of the armed forces despite our numerous material difficulties. They also demonstrated that excellent spirit of cooperation which has developed between the cadres of the CAR Armed Forces and their French counterparts be it in the field of operational assistance or of technical military assistance. The armed forces have thus given an example of what could be achieved with little means but with the sense of organization, cohesion of the cadres and especially the firm determination to succeed.

The government and I am fully aware of your problems and we are making efforts to solve them in a difficult national context and with the constraints imposed by our task of economic development. Our armed forces are the guarantors of our national independence, internal peace and territorial integrity and they deserve the attentive care of the nation. We should not forget this.

Major, I sincerely thank you for the reception you have accorded us. Long live the CAR Armed Forces! Long live the republic!

CSO: 4719/324

CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

OPPOSITION LEADER SAYS DACKO IS FRIGHTENED MAN

London WEST AFRICA in English 3 Aug 81 p 1794

[Text]

Despite assurances during a visit to Paris by the Prime Minister, Mr. Simon Bozanga, that the Central African Republic is committed to political plurality, the recent bomb explosion at a Bangui cinema has brought into the open the repressive nature of the regime, writes a correspondent.

The situation is complicated by the fact that the opposition is largely composed of people who worked with the deposed "Emperor" Bokassa.

The African National Liberation Movement, headed by Idi Lalla, which has claimed responsibility for the cinema attack, has since been banned. The Movement for the Liberation of the Central African People, headed by Mr. Ange Patasse, is now also illegal and Mr. Patasse has been arrested. Mr. Patasse held 11 ministerial posts under the Bokassa regime.

The other major opposition movement is led by Dr. Abel Goumba, who has been in exile in Paris for the last 17 years. His party, the Patriotic Front, has also been banned by President Dacko. The President has accused the Goumba and Lalla factions of plotting the bombing together, and says that he has documentary proof of this.

Dr. Boumba, however, told *West Africa* that his party has no armed section, and has condemned the bombing as "blind terrorism". He described the state of siege (nearly martial law) as the "reaction of a frightened man". He said that the recent events were but a replay of the events of 1960, when President Dacko banned the Movement for Democracy in Africa, of which Dr. Goumba was leader. The slim electoral victory in March, when President Dacko was reported to have gained 50.23 per cent of the votes, was invalid, said Dr. Goumba, who claimed that President Dacko had only actually won a third of the vote.

Dr. Goumba, however, told *West Africa* that his party has no armed the most credible of the opposition leaders. This is partly because he has been out of the country for 17 years (and so can hardly have been involved in the widespread corruption that took place), and partly because the Patriotic Front is the only party to have put forward a coherent recovery plan for the economy.

The new Socialist regime in France has said that it will not go back on its commitment of non-interference in internal affairs. There are about 1,500 French troops in CAR, mostly based in the town of Bouar. Their role is to protect the country from external aggression and to look after the French community in CAR. When the state of siege was declared they were confined to barracks.

Dr. Goumba has confidence in the Mitterrand administration, and finds it "completely natural" that the CAR Prime Minister was not received by President Mitterrand during his recent visit to Paris. Mr. Bozanga is the representative of a "facist regime". Dr. Goumba said.

Meanwhile, the state of siege is taking hold. Night flights into CAR have been banned, and security measures at the airport in Bangui have been stepped up. Travellers reported scattered street fights between civilians and CAR soldiers in Bangui. A Western businessman, who slipped out of Bangui said he saw rioting civilians clash with troops. He said: "On one side of the road I could see civilians coming towards me, smashing cars and taxis. On the other side of the road were soldiers smashing civilians." He said that he had reached the airport by hiding under a tarpaulin in a large truck which roared through the crowd. Another businessman who arrived in Cameroon from Bangui said that he saw troops with machine guns conducting house to house searches in the African quarters along the airport road.

CSO: 4700/357

CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

FPO-PT PRESIDENT DISCUSSES HIS POLITICAL ORIENTATION

Paris LE CONTINENT in French 4 Aug 81 p 4

[Interview with Abel Goumba, leader of the Ubangi Patriotic Front-Labor Party (FPO-PT), by Lucien Ahonto, in Paris; date not given]

[Text] Fifty-three years old and balding, Abel Goumba, who holds a degree in medicine, is one of the founders of the Central African Republic, along with the late Barthelemy Boganda.

Leader of the Ubangi Patriotic Front-Labor Party (FPO-PT), Dr Goumba is one of the few men of the Central African opposition who has had no relations with former Emperor Bokassa. Consequently, he has the reputation of being an honest man.

Since 18 July, following the bombing of the Le Club movie theater in Bangui (LE CONTINENT, 17 and 18 July), his party has been dissolved and there is an international warrant for his arrest. But President Dacko's decision scarcely seems to bother the leader of the FPO-PT, with whom we talked in Paris.

[Question] An international warrant for your arrest has been issued (or is going to be issued). What do you expect to do in this situation?

[Answer] It is ridiculous, even grotesque, that Dacko should want to issue an international warrant for my arrest. Everyone knows that Dacko was Bokassa's personal adviser. Consequently, he bears the responsibility for many crimes. I have difficulty understanding how a man such as Dacko can issue a warrant for my arrest, especially when Bokassa lives in the Ivory Coast in complete freedom. As far as I am concerned, I have committed no crime. My only crime, perhaps, is that of defending the interests of my country for 20 years.

That type of arrest warrant is generally issued for individuals who have committed common law crimes. If one were to extradite all politicians, I think we shall have to have more prisons to contain them. Dacko looks at the world as if it were in the tiny Central African sphere in which he is free to do what he wants.

[Question] You are presented as the "pet" of the new French authorities. Does that not bother you?

[Answer] Presenting me as the "pet" of the new French authorities is too much. The press undoubtedly has the right to give its opinion on a given political personality. This being the case, it is true that the advent of the left in France is a good thing that I defend and that we all defend. If it is for that reason that I am presented as the "pet" of the new French authorities, well....

[Question] Where is your base in Africa, since you have been an international official for so long?

[Answer] The fact that I have been an international official has not brought me any particular support. My past as a political leader in the Central African Republic introduced me to heads of African nations that are part of the so-called "progressive" Africa. I am a man of the left and consequently, I had to make contact with leftist regimes.

On the Central African level, I was obviously the leader of the first government under the law-framework, formed in 1957 and lasting until about 1964, the date of my departure in exile.

[Question] Your party, the FPO-PT, is part of the Provisional Political Council. Why is it that you only recently called upon the opposition to rally around you? Is there not a kind of struggle within the Council for leadership of the opposition?

[Answer] The Provisional Political Council was formed following the presidential election of 15 March 1981. It is a simple organ aimed at coordinating the activities of the four candidates: Francois Pehoua, Ange Patasse, Henri Maidou and myself, in order to annul the rigged elections. Consequently, there is no president. The meetings are held alternately in our homes.

I have mentioned my past as a resister since 1957, the date of Boganda's "mysterious" disappearance. In 1960, I set up the MEDAC (Movement of Democratic Evolution in Central Africa), which was a response to the deviationist line of the MESAN (Movement for the Social Development of Black Africa), followed by Dacko.

Resister From the Beginning

Upon Boganda's death, Dacko, supported by the colonialists, totally distorted the line laid out by Boganda. Since 1960, I have led the struggle, which brought me 3 or 4 years in prison and many years in exile, particularly in France, where I led discussion groups. In January 1976, the Revolutionary National Liberation Committee (CRLN) was formed in Bangui, in order to overthrow Bokassa.

In other words, since the very creation of the Central African Republic, I have fought, whether under Dacko or Bokassa. It is for those reasons that I consider myself as a resister from the very beginning, who fought for the country's true independence.

[Question] You have certainly played a great role in Central African political life in the 1950's. You have also spent some 20 years outside your country. Do you not believe that that exile has cut you off somewhat from the true national situation in the Central African Republic?

[Answer] Throughout all the time I have been underground, I have never ceased fighting and I can say here, publicly, that it was thanks to the FPO that Bokassa began to suffer the first blows that finally brought about his downfall. It was thanks to the actions of the FPO in the field that the students went out into the streets, bringing a large share of the people behind them. This is a detail that everyone tends to forget. Obviously, since I am not in the country, in the eyes of a people that for over 70 years suffered the yoke of colonization and that could not vote once in 20 years, that absence has certainly had an effect. But for me, the essential thing was to present myself, explain to the people the country's situation since Boganda's death. If Dacko dissolved the FPO-PT, it was because it forms the most structured, the most combative movement in the field and Dacko was afraid of it.

[Question] You do not seem to demand the departure of the French troops from the Central African Republic any more. Is this not a shift that might surprise people, and what are your reasons?

[Answer] That shift cannot surprise anyone who takes the trouble to make a thorough political analysis. We demanded the immediate withdrawal of the French troops because their intervention was the exclusive work of Giscard d'Estaing. Moreover, that is what is complicating the situation now. They would not protect the Central African people, but only Dacko. The situation has now changed. Politics is also the art of choosing.

It is a leftist government that is in power in France and, in keeping with its principles, the principles of socialism, that government no longer wants foreign troops in any country of the world, particularly Africa. The new French Government has clearly stated: The French troops in the Central African Republic must no longer intervene in the domestic affairs of countries as they did during the time of Giscard. At the present time, the Central African National Army is not capable of ensuring the protection of all Central Africans and all foreigners, including French people in the Central African Republic.

Moreover, another reason that caused me, not to change positions, but to establish an order of priorities, is the current presence on Central African soil of Moroccan mercenaries and, in the near future, of South African, Egyptian and Sudanese mercenaries. Under such conditions, between two evils, one must choose the lesser one. The presence of the French Army under these conditions represents the lesser temporary evil. But the principle of withdrawal is still maintained.

11,464

CSO: 4719/259

CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

BRIEFS

OPPOSITION INCREASES ACTIVITY--The Central African opposition has never been so active as it has since President David Dacko, following the 14 July bombing in Bangui, decided to "restore order at home" at the cost of the burial of a democratic experiment that could have made the people forget the antics of an incompetent, megalomaniac emperor. It is as if the government and opposition had a different, if not contrary, interpretation of the basic freedoms and democracy, as defined and guaranteed by the constitution. Actually, the 14 July bombing could have provided the occasion for a national burst of energy, a sacred union of all Central African patriots against the rampant terrorism that threatened the future of democracy and the principle, accepted by nearly everyone, of the conquest of power by legal means. The main beneficiary of this new political situation would undeniably be David Dacko, who preferred the cudgel to dialog, suspended the Central African People's Liberation Movement (MLPC) of Ange Patasse and banned the Ubangi Patriotic Front (FPO) of Abel Goumaba. Such an attitude did not come as a big surprise to the Central African opposition, which claims that the author behind the loathsome attack of 14 July was none other than the person crying wolf, a crushing hypothesis for the Central African authorities. Abel Goumaba, whose interview we are publishing in this issue, holds Idi Lalla, who publicly claimed credit for the attack on behalf of his group, the Central African National Liberation Movement (MCLN), to be an "irresponsible individual linked to Qadhafi while maintaining secret relations with Dacko." Machiavelli is not African. The Central African opposition maintains that the author of "The Prince" has many followers on the banks of the Ubangi-Chari. Is it possible? [By Jerome Carlos] [Text] [Paris LE CONTINENT in French 4 Aug 81 p 4] 11,464

CSO: 4719/259

PRESIDENT MEETS WITH PENNE; NEW STAGE IN RELATIONS BEGINS

Paris LE MONDE in French 8 Aug 81 p 3

[Article: "Mr Guy Penne Met President Goukouni Oueddei in Libreville"]

[Text] Guy Penne, Mr Mitterrand's adviser on African and Malagasy affairs, presently on a trip to Africa accompanied by Regis Debray, charge de mission in the Elysee, met Thursday 6 August in Libreville with Goukouni Oueddei, president of the GUNT (Transitional National Unity Government of Chad). This meeting had been arranged by Mr Bongo, the president of Gabon. Mr Oueddei gave notice of his intention to send a memorandum to Mitterrand on the reconstruction of Chad and, according to Mr Penne, and elaborated on the "positive role" reserved for France in this project.

Coming after the sending of French experts to N'djamena (LE MONDE of 6 August) and the missions carried out in Nairobi at the OAU [Organization of African Unity] summit, and in the Chadian capital by Mr Jean-Pierre Campredon, the emissary of the French Government, this meeting marks a new stage in the present rapprochement between Paris and the Chadian Government. President Bongo is one of the architects of this negotiation, despite his hostility—at least initially—to the Libyan military intervention on behalf of President Oueddei.

Penne and Debray, who have already been to Niamey and Cotonou, are to continue on to Brazzaville, Luanda, and Maputo, before returning to Paris via Djibouti.

Jean-Pierre Cot, deputy minister for cooperation and development, is himself supposed to go to Accra Saturday for a 48-hour official visit, following a 5-day official visit to Cameroon, during the course of which he had long talks with President Ahidjo. Mr Cot will then go to Senegal before returning to Paris 17 August. He should return to Africa 21-23 August for an official visit to Nigeria, where he will meet Shehu Shagari.

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CSO: 4719/283

CONGO

BRIEFS

AGREEMENT WITH BRAZIL--A protocol agreement was signed last Friday under which (BRAZ-PECO), a Brazilian oil exploration company, will participate in the exploration of gas and liquid fuel with the licence of a major oil exploration company called (?Marine A) in the People's Republic of Congo. The Congolese Government was presented by the minister of mines and energy, Comrade Rodolphe Adada, assisted by Comrade Camille Essomba, director of (Ral-Congo Bureau) while (Aholdo Ramus da Silva), representative of the company, represented the Brazilian side. [Text] [Brazzaville Domestic Service in French 1245 GMT 8 Aug 81]

CSO: 4719/291

EQUATORIAL GUINEA

BRIEFS

COOPERATION WITH LAGOS DISCUSSION--An important delegation led by Mr Celestino, (Mandogo Nsi), permanent secretary of the Ministry of External Affairs, and comprising other government officials, left yesterday for Lagos, Federal Republic of Nigeria. The aim of this mission is to establish contact with the Nigerian Government on bilateral cooperation. [Text] [AB250910 Malabo Domestic Service in Spanish 0600 GMT 25 Aug 81]

CSO: 4748/11

GABON

BRIEFS

PRESIDENTIAL RESPONSIBILITIES RETAINED--Libreville, 20 Aug (AFP)--The forthcoming appointment of a prime minister and head of government should not be construed as an abdication or as paving the way for a possible succession, according to a communique published on Wednesday at the end of meeting of the Gabonese Democratic Party political bureau presided over by President Omar Bongo. The Gabonese head of state told the members of the political bureau that he was not renouncing his highest responsibilities: to ensure the leadership of the state, determine the national policy, ensure the continuity of the state and act as arbitrator and custodian of institutions. In this respect, the communique adds, the president of the republic still exercises supreme executive power. The prime minister will head the government while being responsible to the president of the republic, the Central Committee and the National Assembly. The meeting of the political bureau follows President Bongo's message to the nation on 16 August, in which he announced a review of the constitution. The prime minister and head of government probably will be appointed after the cabinet meeting today and the meetings of the Central Committee and National Assembly on Saturday. [Text] [AB201017 Paris AFP in French 0809 GMT 20 Aug 81]

CSO: 4719/325

POLITICAL PARTIES' MERGER IS EXCITING COMMENT

Merger's Success Doubted

Accra DAILY GRAPHIC in English 1 Aug 81 p 3

[Article by Sam Clegg]

[Text]

THE wild excitement which has gripped some notable sections of the public in regard to the merging parties is distracting.

If you do not share this view I have no qualms about it but I am entitled to my views.

Since the Eastern Region youth wings of the five merging parties rather pressured the fusion, I have kept my ears to the ground, trying to discern the colour, size, shape and tenderness of the knees of the horse which is yet to appear on the horizon.

The horse may appear but the noise heralding its expected appearance is unnecessary.

Nothing stopped the five parties involved from doing what they are now trying to do right from the time the ban on political activities was lifted. Nor does anything stop them from merging now.

However, their often repeated charge of incompetence levelled against the Limann Administration is misleading and therefore I particularly find the noise around the merger distracting.

If anything the "merger party" is trying to give the People's National Party (PNP) its collective guilt.

The guilt being the inability of any one of the five parties involved in the merger to win the last general and Presidential elections.

I know for certain that secretly the minority parties have been applauding the organisational ability of the PNP which enabled the party to win 71 out of the 140 Parliamentary seats.

All the furore about the Limann Administration's supposed failure is therefore just a political gimmick being applied by the opposers in the hope that their party will catch the eyes of the electorate in 1983.

So obsessed are the opposers in applying this ploy that even the attempts being made by the government to find aid to help buttress efforts towards the resuscitation of the economy mean nothing to them at all.

The Vice-President's recent tour of Brazil, where he was able to sign a loan agreement running into million of dollars, is even seen as a waste just because he used the Presidential jet for the tour. The idea that anything initiated by the government is not right is disconcerting.

But surely a government that is gradually coming out of the mess created by immediate past governments cannot be easily written off.

Be that as it may what is being awaited now is 1983 when the "merger party" will pitch its strength against the PNP in elections.

Already, there is a school of thought that has made the merger party winner in 1983, as a result of the addition of the total votes cast for the five minority parties in the 1979 elections.

Contrary to this belief, the PNP is likely to make nonsense of the forecast of the book-makers.

For one thing Ghanaians are beginning to disabuse their minds of empty boasts and are perceiving things in their true perspective. For another a deep rooted party such as the PNP cannot be easily dislodged.

Looking at the composition of the "merger party", and its strength one is tempted to take the parties involved one after the other.

The Third Force Party (TFP) did not make any impact in the last elections. Its following, if any, must have evaporated into thin air and its present lost identity is not going to help the merger in any way. The top hierarchy may be intact but one cannot say the same thing for the grass roots support.

The Popular Front Party (PFP), the biggest of the minorities, and its stronghold which is the Ashanti Region will certainly make the "merger party" functional.

This is good for democracy but beyond that there is no guarantee for nation-wide regional cleavage.

The Action Congress Party (ACP) is centrally regionalized. Its supporters' disrespect for the highest office of the land has become an albatross which the "merger party" will certainly hang around its neck.

The Ghanaian is no fool. Those who would like to rule must first learn to be ruled and I wish to add that they must also first learn to respect authority. Knowing the organizational ability of the PNP, it is likely that the trend in voting will sway in its favour in the Central Region.

The United National Convention (UNC) is thought of as comprising only defecting PFP members. Well, perhaps this is largely so at the top but not at the grass roots. Mr Harry Sawyer's supporters, for example, cannot be said to be PFP defectors. And there are many more of such people in the UNC.

When the chips are down, the supporters are likely to go their various ways. At the moment there is a pressure group trying to suppress the fact that some UNC supporters have already opted for the PNP. But what good will that do on voting day?

From the ambit of a socialist manifesto the Social

Democratic Front (SDF) has turned in the opposite direction to embrace a fusion with parties of different ideology, so to speak.

It is therefore not surprising that some of the founding members have kicked against its inclusion in the merger. The rebuff won't end there as it will certainly touch the grass roots.

Indeed the SDF alone seems to be giving a lot of headaches to Mr Victor Owusu. Recently at a political rally at Tema he was reported as having now taken a middle-of-the-road stance. No capitalism no socialism.

The SDF is certainly the problem child of the merger. There are so many issues which make the merger seem farcical but the case of the SDF tops them all.

By all means the new party is welcome but the noise being created around its formation must be turned into a dim. For as the saying goes "the race is not for the swift neither is the battle for the strong."

The year 1983 will come as surely as dawn follows pitch darkness but until then those in power must be given some peace to carry on their onerous task of repairing the wrecked economy.

Leadership Question Addressed

Accra GHANAIAN TIMES in English 3 Aug 81 p 4

[Article by K. Cab Addae]

[Excerpts]

DOUBTLESSLY, the first major announcement about the "conclusion" of the merger of the five minority parties made to newsmen by Col. Frank George Bernasko (retired) on Tuesday June 3, was a disappointment.

But if as observers rightly pointed out, that announcement which came after nearly seven months negotiations was no more than a declaration of

intent, the tit-bits that have been trickling in of late give proof of seriousness on the part of the negotiators.

Reactions to the whole affair have been varied, though. Some people, especially majority party members and ideologues, have said that the whole business is a non-starter. They think for example that if SDF can join with PFP then it means miracles can happen even in the twentieth century.

Some others, this time not just from majority party quarters, think the fact that it needed not less than five parties to pool forces against PNP, ipso facto acknowledges the PNP as a giant: the only viable party among the lot which contested the 1979 elections.

As such the "Merger Party" they say would start from a position of weakness. True or False?

Next, some critics say if the object is to reduce the number of parties in circulation then it has misfired because already more parties are coming out i.e. Communists (or is it communist?) party and Kwame Nyanteh's incoming Gold Coast Renaissance Party.

Whatever it is those engaged in the negotiations are hopeful that they would succeed, especially now that the minority parties have been able to defeat majority party motion for the acceptance of the budget.

That in itself may not provide hundred per cent certainty that the merged parties will win. But we may give them the benefit of doubt.

That benefit becomes even more realistic if one views the hurdles the parties have gone through before reaching the present milestone.

REALITY

So the merger is almost a reality, barring any political tricks from any contestant, and the major reaction from PNP quarters, per co-Comrade Kwame Agyei-Sakyi, Deputy National Education Secretary is that "we are not scared". Youthful General Secretary of PNP also says "we shall give them a thrashing of their lives".

And only last week the Vice-President called on Ghanaians to reject the merger because of "inconsistent ideologies" of the parties in the merger.

To the supporters of the merger, especially the youth wings who seem to be in hurry more than their elders, their bother is whether the whole exercise will take off with enough strength to achieve the objectives of uprooting the Palm Tree at the polls. The whole fear centres around how to solve the leadership question.

That is one reason why some of them are worried about reported intrigues by some prospective leadership candidates.

On Monday July 16 Mr Obeng Manu, secretary general of TFP on behalf of

his party hinted at "frantic attempts being made to pave the way for Mr Victor Owusu to emerge as the new leader.

Four days later three Popular Front Party MPs namely Hon. Alfred Badu Nkansah (Asunafo), Hon. S. K. A. Gyebi-Ofosu, better known among his colleagues as Presidential material (Birim Anafo) and Hon. Daniel Donkor (Atwima Mponua) scorned Mr Obeng Manu's effusions.

The writer would not like to assess the chances of the candidates at this stage. But it seems that with Pa' Willie now wearing the garb of an elder statesman in the final analysis it will be MR LONGER EXPERIENCE versus MR DYNAMISM with the Northern factor still to be reckoned with and it is hoped whoever wins would have been popularly elected.

Lest I forget: should the new party be registered in a week or so what will happen to the Minority MPs in view of Article 79 (1) of the Constitution which says: "A Member of Parliament shall lose his seat in Parliament if he leaves the party of which he was a member at the time of election to join ANOTHER PARTY?" (caps mine).

CSO: 4700/355

GHANA

PPF LEADER ON PRESENT ECONOMIC PROBLEMS

AB210900 Accra Domestic Service in English 0600 GMT 21 Aug 81

[Text] The leader of the Popular Front Party [PPF], Victor Owusu, has urged Western investors not to write off Ghana because of her present economic difficulties. He said despite the failure of the present government to initiate moves likely to inspire either the people or interested foreigners with hope and confidence, this is no reason why the country should be written off. Victor Owusu was addressing a news conference at the London International Press Center.

He said although Ghana is a country of peaceful people with a lot of resources and capable of great achievements, she still needs assistance and her friends--especially in the West--should spare no efforts in providing the help. Victor Owusu assured foreign investors that there is a viable alternative in Ghana today to the present administration. He said when the time comes to rule, his party and those who share its ideals and programs will demonstrate their ability to rebuild Ghana. They will present to the world a more balanced and favorable picture much nearer the truth than has so far been painted of Ghana.

On measures to improve the economy, Victor Owusu said there is an urgent need for the government to end the rapid increases in Ghana's money supply which accounts for the high inflation rate. And in tackling the country's acute economic problems an ordinary mere devaluation will, however, not do in the prevailing circumstances. The economic difficulties can be tackled by what he termed the management of the economy, agriculture, government expenditure and the currency. While stressing the urgent need to rationalize the management of the economy to achieve efficiency, Victor Owusu said this entails the coordination of Ghana's economic policies, bringing some discipline and order into government's finances while cutting waste at all levels.

CSO: 4700/359

BRIEFS

FISH WASTED--Several tonnes of herrings which were landed at the Tema Fishing Harbour at the weekend have gone rotten in the hatches of fishing vessels. The fish, brought in by vessels of the Ghana Cooperative Fishermen Association, Soli and Nova Fisheries, as well as canoe fishermen, who are of late reaping a bumper harvest in the Tema area, cannot be discharged because the only cold storage facility of the State Fishing Corporation (SFC) is filled to capacity. Stranded fish mongers who cashed in on the bumper to buy hundreds of crates of herrings apparently for salting, smoking and drying, were prepared to offer a crate of 35-kilo weight for anything below ₦209 as there were no lorries to convey the herrings to town due to transportation difficulties. [Excerpts] [Accra DAILY GRAPHIC in English 3 Aug 81 p 1]

CULTURAL AGREEMENT WITH GDR--Ghana and the German Democratic Republic (GDR) yesterday signed a cultural agreement under which the GDR would help Ghana in areas to be specified by Ghana. Mr Thomas Abilla, Minister of Sports and Culture, signed for Ghana while Mr H. Denzler, GDR Ambassador to Ghana, signed for his country. Picture shows Mr Abilla exchanging copies of the agreement with Mr Denzler soon after the ceremony at the Ministry of Culture and Sports in Accra. Mr Abilla revealed that the country would soon be sending cultural and sports teams to train in the GDR and hoped that the agreement would be of benefit to both countries. Mr Denzler said the relations between the two countries had always been cordial and promised to explore avenues that would help strengthen the relationship existing between the two countries, especially in culture and sports. [Text] [Accra GHANAIAN TIMES in English 6 Aug 81 p 1]

STRONGER TIES WITH GDR URGED--The Ghana-German Democratic Republic Friendship Society has called for the strengthening of the joint commission for cooperation on scientific, cultural, technical and other related matters between Ghana and the GDR. This was contained in a press statement issued at the weekend on the occasion of the 11th anniversary of the founding of the society which fell on Saturday. In their opinion strengthening of the commission would enable Ghana to share in the rich experiences of the GDR in overcoming some of her problems. The society has, therefore, called for relations stronger than those that existed before February 1966. Ghana was one of the first African countries south of the Sahara to establish links with the GDR, even before her independence in 1957. The GDR "acknowledges her position as a true ally of all oppressed peoples and calls on Ghana and other developing nations to join the countries of the socialist community in their search for world peace based on equality and security," it said. [Text] [Accra GHANAIAN TIMES in English 4 Aug 81 p 8]

CULTURAL AGREEMENT WITH BULGARIA--Mr Thomas Abilla, Minister of Culture and Sports, formally presented the text of a cultural agreement signed between the Ghana-Bulgaria Friendship Society and the Bulgarian Cultural Committee in Sofia, Bulgaria, last May at a ceremony at the Bulgarian Embassy in Accra at the weekend. Mr Abilla made the presentation to Dr Victor Narh, president of the society, on behalf of the Bulgarian Cultural Committee. The agreement, signed for the Ghana-Bulgarian Friendship Society by Mr Ken Daniels, general secretary of the society, provides for the promotion of cultural and educational relations and the organization of joint activities to mark the national days of both nations. Under the accord, Ghanaian member students of the society will be admitted to higher educational institutions in Bulgaria for specialized courses. Present were Mr Emmanuel Arthur and Mr Kwasi Prempeh, Deputy Ministers, Mr J.A. Mensah, Principal Secretary, all of the Ministry of Culture and Sports and officials of the society.--GNA [Excerpts] [Accra GHANAIAN TIMES in English 4 Aug 81 p 3]

TUC INDUSTRIAL PEACE PLEDGE--Mr Sarpong Boateng, acting administrative secretary of the Trade Union Congress, has repeated the TUC's commitment to total industrial peace in the country. Mr Boateng was speaking at the closing session of a two-week advanced trade union leadership course at the Accra Labour College jointly sponsored by the TUC, the Public Service International and the Friedrich-Ebert Foundation of West Germany for 26 participants drawn from governmental unions of the congress. He stressed that in this period of the country's history, it was incumbent upon the leadership from all sectors of the manifold problems facing the nation could be attacked from a positive standpoint. On behalf of the executive board, Mr Boateng thanked the Public Service International and the Foundation for co-sponsoring the course, assuring them that their contributions towards the qualitative growth of trade unions in Ghana would always be recognized. Mr Hans-Werner Loeber, the Foundation's representative, observed that the traditional role of trade unionism was to find solutions to the problems facing the working class in order to improve their standard of living. This, he cautioned, could not be achieved if the leaders and the workers were not united. Mr J.M. Hegarty, PSI African representative, praised the TUC for its democratic approval to raise the living standard of its members. [Excerpts] [Accra GHANAIAN TIMES in English 4 Aug 81 p 8]

JOINT BRAZILIAN VENTURES EQUIPMENT--Two new factories are to be set up at Buipe near Tama'e and Takoradi under a \$16 million Brazilian loan agreement. Construction work is to start soon on the two projects, a lime factory to be sited at (Bute) and a wall and floor tile factory at Takoradi. The projects are joint ventures of the Bank for Housing and Construction and a Brazilian firm, (Ceramica Codeiro). Some of the machinery have arrived at Takoradi Harbor and the offloading is being supervised by the managing assistant to the Brazilian company, Mr Eduardo Leao. He told our western region correspondent that the offloading exercise, which should have taken 5 days to complete, will now take about 18 days. This will cost his company about \$10,000 a day for the delay of the ship in Ghana. He attributed the delay to handling problems, lack of proper trucks and cranes for the offloading as well as warehouse facilities. [Text] [AB181445 Accra Domestic Service in English 1300 GMT 18 Aug 81]

OFFICIAL DISCUSSES PORTUGUESE CADRE TRAINING

Praia VOZ DI POVO in Portuguese 15 Jul 81 p 8

[Report on interview with Vasco Cabral, minister of economic coordination and planning, date and place not given]

[Excerpts] On his return from consultation in Geneva on the occasion of Guinea-Bissau's admission to the United Nations as an underdeveloped country, Comrade Vasco Cabral, minister of economic coordination and planning, spent several days in Portugal, where he made various contacts regarding cooperation. As we learned in our interview, those contacts included a meeting with the Portuguese agency for cooperation to discuss provision of cadres for Guinea-Bissau, a meeting with the secretary of state for employment and a visit to the Zabregas Professional Training Center (where Guinea-Bissau cadres will be trained), a meeting with the Portuguese secretary of state for planning, a meeting with the Scientific Council of the Higher Institute of Economics to discuss creation of an undergraduate school of economics and finance in Guinea-Bissau, and a meeting with the directors of the magazine ECONOMIA E SOCIALISMO regarding the economic and financial stabilization program being drafted by Guinea-Bissau.

Explaining in detail, Minister Cabral told us first about his meeting with the Portuguese cooperation officials, with whom he evaluated the situation regarding provision of cadres for our country, particularly for the MCEP [Ministry of Economic Coordination and Planning]. "This meeting was important," he said, "because it enabled us not only to clear up the status of some cadres we wanted here and who had been delayed, but also to open broader prospects for cadre training for our enterprises and for MCEP activities."

In his meeting with Dr Alberto Regueira, secretary of state for planning, a number of bases were established for possible cooperation in the training of cadres for MCEP activities.

"I also met with the Scientific Council of the Higher Institute of Economics," the comrade minister reported, "in particular, with the president and some professors, to consider creation of an undergraduate school of economics and finance in Guinea-Bissau next year. I also visited the Zabregas Professional Training Center, and I met with Dr Luis Morales, secretary of state for employment, with whom I discussed the question of training our cadres at the center. A number of prospects were opened, and we are prepared to use them to the best

advantage. There will be training not only for MCEP cadres, but we think that all the other economic agencies, to which we will be giving this information, could use these opportunities that have been offered to us to train cadres with practically no expense to Guinea-Bissau."

The Xabregas Center, with branches scattered throughout Portugal, is linked to the Secretariat of State for Employment and admits students who have completed at least the fourth class and fifth year, for such courses as metalworking, electrical mechanics, industrial design and accounting.

In his contacts, the minister of planning also consulted with a representative of the SORES sugar company about problems involving sugar supplies for our country. According to Dr Cabral, the firm is "prepared to send its technicians here to study and to offer specific recommendations that we can put to use in our Gambiel sugar project."

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CSO: 4728/79

GINEAU-BISSAU

BRIEFS

CAPITAL BUDGET ESTIMATES APPROVED--Bissau, 22 Aug (AFP)--The Economic Council of Guinea-Bissau's ruling revolutionary council has approved the 1981 capital budget estimates. The budget lays emphasis on the agricultural sector which is now considered top priority in the country's economic development, an official communique indicated. The basis of the budget's investment estimates is the budget drawn up by the former regime of President Luis Cabral who was overthrown on 14 November 1980. That budget which totalled 4.876 billion Guinean pesos (about 41.5 billion CFA francs), gave priority to prestigious projects and industrial projects of doubtful economic output, according to the present authorities in Guinea-Bissau. However, no radical changes were made on the budget drawn by the former regime because most of the projects are in the process of execution, the communique adds. But the capital budget will be totally reviewed to bring it in line with the recurrent budget, taking into account the priority of each ministry, concludes the communique. [Text] [AB221210 Paris AFP in French 1022 GMT 22 Aug 81]

CSO: 4719/325

IVORY COAST

HOUPHOUET-BOIGNY ADDRESSES PARTY MEETINGS

AB201424 Abidjan Domestic Service in French 1245 GMT 20 Aug 81

[Excerpts] The head of state and chairman of the party recently presided over meetings of the Political Bureau and the Steering Committee. The following communique was published following these two meetings:

As he announced on his return from Europe on 12 August, the head of state, President Felix Houphouet-Boigny, who is also chairman of the party presided over a meeting of the Political Bureau on Monday, 17 August and over that of the party's Steering Committee on Tuesday, 18 August. These two meetings were held at the presidential palace in the presence of all the members of the government. Both meetings were devoted to the same subjects. There were three main points on the agenda: first, a report on the president's recent friendly, working visit to Paris at the invitation of French President Francois Mitterrand; secondly, the forthcoming conference of heads of state in Mexico on the North-South dialogue and finally the social situation in Ivory Coast in the light of the serious crisis now facing the entire world.

Concerning the second point on the agenda, the president of the republic confirmed his forthcoming participation in the Mexico summit conference on the North-South dialogue to be held next October. The Political Bureau expressed happiness about the choice of our president to participate in this important international conference which will be attended by eight heads of state of industrialized countries and 14 heads of state and government of developing countries including four from Africa. This choice honors both Ivory Coast and the whole of Africa. At this conference, the president of the republic--supported by his African colleagues--will again utter words of wisdom, realism and justice.

Finally concerning the third point on the agenda, that is the effects of the world crisis on our country, the president of the republic, who--when in Europe--thoroughly examined the international economic situation which is mainly dominated by monetary disorder, inflation and unemployment, made a long report emphasizing that this crisis does not spare any country. The head of state disclosed, in this connection, that as far as he is concerned, Ivory Coast can honorably weather this storm on three main conditions: the first condition is to maintain social peace by closing our ranks in unity and harmony and by demonstrating patience and understanding in facing our difficulties. The social peace being enjoyed by our country is the first condition for progress and it must be maintained and consolidated.

The second condition is that we must work harder. Ivorians must stand up and redouble their zeal to work. Only serious and organized work will enable us to overcome the situation and to achieve self-sufficiency in food, which is so essential to the developing countries. Party delegations will hold meetings throughout the national territory in order to launch a vast general information, training and mobilization campaign to enable us to pursue in unity and a sense of responsibility the path of progress despite the crisis. In this connection, the party's Steering Committee expressed happiness that the confidence being enjoyed by our country in its relations with all the developed countries has never been compromised even in these difficult moments despite the behavior and attitude of some national cadres who, instead of having the courage of clearly explaining to our compatriots the causes of the international crisis affecting us, have been indulging in cheap demagogic. The Steering Committee denounced this attitude and these methods which are foreign to our country and invited the persons indulging in this practice to put a stop to this behavior which is not in the general interest.

The third condition is that we should live within our means. Ivorians have not enough sense of saving and of reasonable spending. It is urgent that a new mentality should emerge, a mentality of crisis which will make each and everyone to live within his means and with moderation in order to overcome the situation.

Very conscious of the social situation prevailing in our country and which affects the lives of our compatriots, the head of state decided that the examination of certain demands and complaints presented to the government should be continued. Moreover, missions have been dispatched to certain brotherly countries and a concerted work is in progress.

After examination of the results of this work and the conclusions of the studies that have been going on for some time now within the commissions of the Political Bureau, the head of state will make an important statement to the country. The party chairman will announce at the same time the measures which could be taken so that Ivory Coast may be able to continue its march toward progress and prosperity in unity, social peace and harmony.

CSO: 4700/360

SECURITY MINISTER DISCUSSES IMMIGRATION, INTERNAL SECURITY

Abidjan FRATERNITE MATIN in French 27-28 Jul 81

[Report on address by Minister of Internal Security Ouassenan given 27 July]

[27 Jul 81, p 4]

[Excerpts] People in all walks of life in the Ivory Coast are concerned by the mounting lawlessness and criminality. Such is the feeling we had last Friday evening at the Treichville Congress House where Mr Ouassenan Kone, minister of internal security, was holding a conference on a topic of burning interest, namely "Security and the Ivorian Citizen."

Why does the Ivorian feel insecure? asks Mr Ouassenan Kone. What can be done to remedy such a situation?

In response to these questions, Mr Kone went back over the history of our region. Presently, despite poor world conditions resulting from the uncontrolled upward price spiral of oil, and especially because of the continuing and unacceptable deterioration in the terms of trade, which has affected us very seriously of late, particularly in the brutal collapse of prices for our key exports, namely cacao, coffee, and wood,--the Ivory Coast, more than most states on the continent, attracts and will continue to attract more and more nationals of other states less well-off than ourselves. Among these migrants the great majority of whom are good workers, excellent economic actors who play a significant and honorable part in the development of our country, unfortunately there has been an infiltration of certain "black sheep" who are our thieves and pickpockets, and who shamelessly, brazenly and inhumanely attack--often armed with weapons--peaceful citizens who are simply trying to earn an honest living.

How many Ivorians, sometimes even including high-level officials, have suggested to me that we hermetically seal our borders, and even the additional measures of round-ups followed by the depositing of non-Ivorians at our border?

There has been a deliberate decision to have a pro-immigration policy. Obviously every policy has advantages and drawbacks. One must first of all understand what they are and then try to cultivate the advantages and eliminate or at least diminish the drawbacks.

In the Ivory Coast, one must implement a policy of populating.

Statistics show us that the birth rate in the Ivory Coast is about 5 percent, and the death rate is about 2.6 percent. Thus our rate of demographic growth from births alone is about 2.4 percent. And even these figures are misleading, because of the large number of non-Ivorian women who deliver in our lying-in hospitals. Thus our growth rate from Ivorian births alone is in reality less than 2.4 percent. Nevertheless, for the purpose of discussing our labor theory, let us take that as the rate. We realize that in order to double our population by births alone it would take 31 years. But very rapidly this argument in itself would very quickly be shot down because of changed attitudes. If in our villages our parents used to accept all the children that Providence provided, this is no longer the case today, especially in the cities. The difficulties of modern life oblige couples today to introduce into domestic life new notions of family planning and, even better, pure and simple limitation of births. The contraceptive methods are there (the pill, sterilization, and others) to respond to these new needs. We must also note that the problems confronting parents at the start of each new school year (cost of supplies, enrollment, problems of finding a place for the average student...) are such that a good number of couples do not want to have more than three or four children.

Moreover, young couples are less and less inclined to agree to raise children who are not their own, because then they can better care for their own offspring. With everyone holding the same convictions, birth control will very rapidly become an everyday practice. Thus, it would be a mistake to claim that this annual growth rate of 2.4 percent can remain constant. On the contrary, with enrollment problems and the tragedies they engender at the beginning of every new school year, as already indicated above, with the concern everyone has to live better, since one only lives once, this growth rate is more likely to decline. Which in plain words means that the Ivorian population will not necessarily double in 31 years.

Now in economics we learn that for a country to really develop, three factors must work together: gray matter, capital, and manpower.

Thanks to the foresight of President Felix Houphouet-Boigny, we can proudly say that we have worthy cadres in the Ivory Coast. Mr Oussenan Kone then recalled that it was in 1946 that then-deputy Houphouet-Boigny sent 146 young students to France to provide the Ivorian administration with its first cadres.

With respect to the second factor, capital, Mr Kone underlined that providers of funds are not lacking in the Ivory Coast.

What seems to be lacking is the third factor, that is the muscle power, in a word, abundant and sufficient manpower.

And it is in this field that the policy of our country seems to upset ill-informed people. One hears frequently from the lips of the profane the remark that there are too many foreigners in the Ivory Coast. Very often we are reproached, as I have already indicated above, for not having taken the necessary measures to round up and expel the foreigners and seal up our borders, because most of the malefactors come from the outside. Certainly, many malefactors are foreigners, and the statistics show that the rate of major crimes is much lower among Ivorians than among foreigners. But that is understandable. On the one hand, we have citizens who are at home, who

thus live in established and well-adapted structures. On the other, we are dealing with individuals, a majority of them rural types, who leave their village, their family, their traditional homes, who are thus deracinated, in order to live in a city far from home, with no preparation or previous information. This phenomenon of deracination is also found among Ivorians who abandon their village to come to the city. They very rapidly adopt lifestyles that are very different from their village customs. These newcomers are subject to the same unwholesome influences which assail non-Ivorians and are thus led to react, unfortunately, in the same reprehensible way as those whom we call foreigners, and thus become deracinated in their own country. With regard to non-Ivorians, the President rightly thinks that the three must not blind us to the forest.

If we have a few rogues, who slip in amongst a large number of good people who are trying to earn their daily bread honestly by the sweat of their brow and are participating thereby in the development of our country, we can say that the percentage is not disastrously large, and it is up to the security forces to take the measures necessary to limit the harmful activities of these individuals.

If two or three foreigners are arrested every week for theft, sometimes armed, how many good, honest, hardworking individuals, by contrast, are we using in our work-yards, on our plantations, in our houses?

If out of every 100 non-Ivorians who come into the Ivory Coast, five are bad elements, it is those five who will be talked about, while no one will pay any attention to the 95 percent people who will be contributing to our economic and demographic growth. It is thus out of concern for manpower, for the Ivory Coast's demographic growth, that the head of state has deliberately chosen this policy of open borders. The ministry of internal security, which he created expressly to deal with this new situation, is thus charged not to reject workers who come here, but to seek out continually and regularly those among them, and also those Ivorians, who are the black sheep in our midst.

This explains the round-ups and above all the "blows of the fist" which we carry out from time to time when the situation requires it, and which are followed by systematic identification and the turning over to Justice of the undesirables who have been sought and apprehended.

[28 Jul 81 p 5]

[Excerpts] Can our good will, our sincerity, our feelings of brotherhood toward all citizens everywhere by itself act as a magic wand to make their animosities toward us disappear? To believe that is to fail to understand human wickedness and egoism. Nevertheless, one thing is certain: we profit enormously from our helping hand policy. And in terms of our security, we note with satisfaction that at the present time no state seems willing to attack us openly. On the contrary, what we as Ivorians must be alert to spot is subversive activities that might be carried out on our territory, brought in from outside by those who do not want to see us progress. These subversive activities, if we were not on guard, could result in an uprising which in turn, and to the misfortune of Ivorians and of all our real friends, engender a civil war.

Narcotics and all sorts of drugs that one country injects into another country in order to undermine the fighting and creative spirit of its population, and particularly of its youth: all these activities destroy the very foundations of the nation. "Disinformation aimed at civilians and psychological warfare aimed at soldiers, consisting in the circulation of false rumors or intentionally distorted and erroneous information, with the precise intent of shaking the morale of the people and sowing confusion in their hearts in order to create distrust, or even repulsion toward the country's institutions, is a part of the same destabilization technique.

Stirring up certain classes of the people over the least little thing and inciting them to join strike movements or demonstrate in the streets or commit acts of vandalism are all actions that impair the country's security.

For a jealous nation or one with hegemonic ambitions to send terrorists into the territory of another nation to organize acts of sabotage, which often result in the destruction of certain sensitive sites or certain public buildings with loss of human life, is a manifestation of the same strategy. The organization of attempts on the lives of eminent personalities in a particular country, with the aim of depriving that country of its patriotic and experienced leaders also constitutes an act of destabilization.

Patent and numerous examples which other countries have experienced, and which have led to practically inextricable predicaments, make the front page of the newspapers and are right under our noses, and we have no need to cite specific examples.

These are all unfortunate examples which have led the president of the republic to say that if he had to choose between disorder and injustice he would choose injustice, for an injustice can always be rectified. But when disorder is established there is practically nothing that can be done.

We always know how a strike or social agitation begins, but we never know how it will end.

We know where a demonstration against the authorities starts, but we never know where it will stop.

In the interest of our common fatherland, the Ivory Coast, we should all make sure that we are never the one who sets off the little spark that could start a row, because with our 100 different ethnic groups, with all different kinds of temperaments, and especially considering that our enemies sometimes pretend to be our friends, we cannot know how far the fire would spread and what would become of our country."

In conclusion, Mr Ouassenan Kone said that security was nowadays considered to be a synonym of peace and social progress. To establish real social peace, we would have to go beyond the concept of security and seek social harmony at all levels--in the households, the families, the schools, the streets, the factories, in relations between people and between different social groups. It thus requires a general policy of dialogue among all public authorities in the definition and execution of their plans of action.

The security forces have been and remain today the visible guardians of the law, and are resolved to spare no effort to provide security to all citizens and to their goods, in order that our dear country, the Ivory Coast, will continue its harmonious development in a spirit of order, union, discipline, and work.

9516

CSO: 4719/275

IVORY COAST

BRIEFS

REGIONAL SOLAR ENERGY CENTER--Under the chairmanship of Henri Konan Bedie, president of the national assembly, the members of parliament met yesterday in plenary session to vote the passage of seven measures. The ratification of the Act Establishing the Regional Solar Energy Center will go toward satisfying the demand of non-oil-producing countries for an energy replacement for oil in order to reduce the harmful effects of the oil crisis on their economic activities. This center is primarily intended to promote and stimulate research and utilization of solar energy. Our government has shown great interest in this and is considering offering Yamoussoukro as a site for the center, because it is a town located in an environment conducive to research and also because several complexes and big scientific colleges are already established there or will be built in the near future. Also, ratification of the act will increase our country's chances to become a primary location for, and beneficiary of the advantages that will be offered by, the training of Ivorian scientists and technicians. [Excerpts] [Abidjan FRATERNITE MATIN in French 23 Jul 81 p 6] 9516

ASSEMBLY APPROVES PENAL CODE--The work of the first regular session of the national assembly, begun last April, came to a conclusion yesterday. During the course of the session which was to mark the end of their work, six bills which were the subject of debates several weeks ago were passed by the members of Parliament. Among these bills was one that was long-awaited dealing with the penal code: a juridical landmark of more than 500 articles, designed to prevent and repress "deviations of all sorts," which, according to the chief committee reporter for the committee on general and institutional affairs, Mr N'Takpe N'Cho, now more than ever before are a constant threat to the public peace and individual security. The new penal law, as it is described by the deputies, is marked by "a subtle balance between guarantees of individual freedom and the protection of society." It thus perfectly synthesizes, as explained by Henri Konan Bedie, president of the national assembly, in his closing speech, the fundamental objective which every organized society must establish: the reconciliation of freedom and public order. In every instance and in all its provisions, the new law appears to be "a courageous stand against criminality" that is constantly on the increase. [Text] [Abidjan FRATERNITE MATIN in French 30 Jul 81 p 1] 9516

ELECTRICITY TIE-UP TO GHANA--The work of the third meeting of the committee on interconnection of power grids between Ghana and the Ivory Coast, which started on Tuesday 21 July, was completed the following day on a note of general satisfaction. When the work, which will start in September, is completed, the Ivory

Coast will have 140 km of high-tension line and Ghana, 70. The two networks will meet at Elubo, an Agni village on the border between the two countries, in the southeast part of Aboisso department. We recall that the first negotiations which were to lead in 1975 to the signing of a protocol accord were begun with the visit of the EECI [Ivory Coast Electric Power Company] general manager of the VRA (Volta River Authority). Subsequently, the two parties contracted with the Tractionel firm to perform feasibility studies for the project. The positive results supporting execution of the project resulted in the creation on 29-30 April 1981 of a Joint Interconnection Committee, whose president was Dr Quartey, then the general manager of the VRA. Wednesday, at the final meeting, Mr Lambert Konan, who has been named by the two delegations to preside over the destiny of the joint interconnection committee, disclosed that "Ghana and the Ivory Coast will henceforth have an indispensable tool for the rational exploitation of their energy resources in general, and their hydroelectric resources in particular." In his conclusion, Mr Lambert Konan, after having emphasized the efforts made in the field of training the cadres needed in the future to service the two networks, expressed his pleasure at the fact that this project combines the "basic objectives of the UPDEA (Union of African Producers and Distributors of Energy), which has always worked toward solving the energy problems of the continent." We note that the transformer station is located at Prestea, a Ghanaian village located not far from Accra. [Excerpts] [Abidjan FRATERNITE-MATIN in French 26 Jul 81 p 3] 9516

PLANNED SOUBRE HYDROELECTRIC PROJECT--The Ivory Coast is going to build itself in the next few years a sixth hydroelectric dam, the Soubre, which will follow Ayame I and II, Kossou, Taabo, and Buyo. The development of our country requires this new project, which itself is integrated into an overall plan drawn up by EECI [Ivory Coast Electric Power Company] which aims at providing, by about the year 2000, the energy production "necessary both for the imperative industrialization of the country and for indispensable ordinary domestic and public consumption" by means of a series of hydroelectric projects. The Soubre dam, work on which will start at the end of 1982, or about one year after the signing of the financing agreement which should take place within the next 2 months, will cost about 168 billion [CFA francs?]. It will be located 80 km downstream from the Buyo hydroelectric project, 120 km north of the port of San Pedro, and 90 km east of the Ivorian-Liberian border. The dam will be built on the Sassandra, the Ivory Coast's third largest river in terms of the area of its watershed basin (74,500 km-square) but the largest in terms of its energy potential (6.575 billion KWH, or 53 percent of the nation's hydroelectric potential). The current project optimizes the potential of the site chosen, the Nawa falls, with an installed power of 360,00 KW corresponding to an annual production of 1.623 million KWH. [Text] [Abidjan FRATERNITE-MATIN in French 3 Aug 81 p 10] 9516

MULTI-BANK DEVELOPMENT LOANS--The conference hall of the ministry of economic and financial affairs was the site late yesterday morning of the signing of 10 loan agreements totalling about F CFA 12.638 billion for the financing of major infrastructure projects in the country's interior. Ivory Coast was represented at the ceremony by Abdoulaye Kone, the minister of economic and financial affairs, and Mr Leon Naké, general manager of the Autonomous Amortization Fund. The loan is intended to finance the following projects: 1) A sum of approximately F CFA 3.36 billion coming from a consortium of abanks headed by American Express will partially cover work on the Agnibilekrou-Bondoukou road. 2) The work of equipping

Bouake airport will be funded by BFCE [French Foreign Trade Bank] and BNP [National Bank of Paris] at the level of F CFA \3.197 billion. 3) Finally, the completion of the work on the Bouake road system and airport runway will be financed up to a total of about F CFA 6.341 billion with a credit provided by Credit Lyonnais, Credit Chimique, and Banque Worms. [Excerpts] [Abidjan FRATERNITE-MATIN in French 4 Aug 81 p 3] 9516

ANNIVERSARY OF 1ST BATTALION--A ceremony commemorating the creation of the first battalion of the armed forces took place Saturday 1 August. This event took place at Camp Akouedo. Everything started with the presentation of the battalion to the deputy chief of staff, Col Zinsou, who passed the troops in review. Lt Col Kone, as the acting commander of the first military region of the first battalion gave a historical account. This was the occasion for that high-ranking officer to render a stirring homage to those who have over the years led the battalion: Col Oulai (Ret.), General Issouf Kone, the initiator of this ceremony, who is currently Ivory Coast's Ambassador to Algeria, and Col Ory. But several days previously, athletic competitions took place, in which all the units at Camp Akouedo took part. "This year," remarked Capt Bakayoko, one of the organizers of the commemoration, "there was something new in the way the athletics were organized; instead of only one cup as in the past, we had three." The armored reconnaissance squadron carried off the handball and general athletics cups. [Excerpts] [Abidjan FRATERNITE-MATIN in French 7 Aug 81 p 7] 9516

MILITARY OFFICERS' GRADUATION--Minister of State Mathieu Ekra, representing the chief of state Saturday, presided at the Bouake Armed Forces School at the commencement of 52 officer-candidates from the "Volonte" and "Entente" classes. These officers belong to seven African countries: Ivory Coast, Gabon, Central African Republic, Niger, Senegal, Togo, and Upper Volta. The ceremony took place before the ministers of defense, internal security, and the navy, as well as high-ranking officers, elected officials of the region, and various lay and clerical personalities. This Saturday, 25 July, will remain a memorable date in the military careers of 45 second-lieutenants who have just received from the hands of Mathieu Ekra, the minister of state, their graduating commissions. They are 19 Ivorians from the "Entente" class, 2 Gabonese, 3 Central Africans, 4 Nigeriens, 7 Senegalese, and 8 Togolese. The first part of the proceedings was the graduation ceremony conducted by the minister of defense and civil service, of the class of 52 officer-candidates who have just finished their first year of study and whose sponsor is Henri Konan Bedie, president of the national assembly. Those officer-candidates are the nationals of seven African countries, namely 17 Ivorians, 5 Gabonese, 3 Central Africans, 2 Nigeriens, 4 Voltans, 6 Senegalese, and 15 Togolese. The EFA [Armed Forces School] is a permanent training center for the personnel of the armed forces. It provides retraining and supplementary training for these personnel. Two categories of civilians are admitted: active duty officer-candidates, and active-duty NCO candidates. Recruitment of officer-candidates from age 18 to age 25 who hold a BAC [baccalaureate] is by means of a competition. Applications from those intending to compete in the competition which takes place in May should be submitted by 15 February to the ministry of defense and civil service. There are separate written and oral examinations. For NCO's the age requirement is 18-25, and candidates must have first-rate minds. Applications should be submitted in October and the competition takes place in December. [Excerpts] [Abidjan FRATERNITE-MATIN in French 28 Jul 81 p 7] 9516

NEW BATTALION COMMANDER--Col Raoul Loba Yede, formerly with the Yamoussoukro presidential guard, is now the commander of the 2nd battalion and the second military region of Daloa. He thus replaces Col Marcel Dey, who has been transferred to the G-3. The ceremony of transferring command took place in the presence of Gen Bertin Zeze Baroan, chief of staff of FANCI [National Armed Forces School of the Ivory Coast], Prefect Daouda Coulibaly, Col Gustave Ouphouet Kouassi, palace military commander of the presidential guard and the militia, and head aide-de-camp of the chief of state, Mgr Pierre Marie Coty, bishop of Daloa, and high-ranking military officers and agency heads. After the transfer of command ceremony, the soldiers of the second battalion made up a "farewell flagon" at the officers' mess. This was the occasion for Maj Gouamba, second in command of the second battalion, to praise the inherent and intellectual caliber of Col Marcel Dey, who carried out his duties well over the last 2 years. [Excerpts] [Abidjan FRATERNITE-MATIN in French 30 Jul 81 p 9] 9516

CSO: 4719/276

LIBERIA

BRIEFS

DOE OPTIMISTIC ABOUT END OF COLONIALISM--Head of state Doe yesterday said that Liberia was committed to the total elimination of colonialism and racism in southern Africa, particularly in Namibia where South Africa's intransigence is continuing in refusing to grant Namibia's independence. He expressed optimism, however, that through the joint efforts of independent African states and the invaluable assistance of other freedom-loving peoples, colonialism will be ended on the continent. He was speaking when he received the credentials of the new Portuguese ambassador to Liberia, (Anandros Lufaci). The ambassador himself is expected to reside in Lagos, Nigeria. [Text] [AB200702 Monrovia Radio ELWA in English 0625 GMT 20 Aug 81]

CSO: 4700/361

MOZAMBIQUE

MACHEL HOSTS BANQUET FOR SWEDISH PRIME MINISTER

EA171148 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 0430 GMT 17 Aug 81

[Text] In Maputo last night President Samora Moises Machel voiced the Mozambique people's condemnation of the irresponsible decision of the present U.S. administration to press on with the manufacture of the neutron bomb. Field Marshal Samora Machel stressed that by refusing to ratify the SALT II agreements, the U.S. Government is creating conditions for a world war. He said that the United States is challenging international public opinion.

Our revolution's supreme leader was speaking at a banquet he hosted yesterday in honor of Swedish Prime Minister Thorbjorn Falldin, who is currently making a friendly official visit to Mozambique. The ties of cooperation existing between Mozambique and Sweden were described by President Samora Machel as a logical continuation of the solidarity forged during the national liberation struggle, which is based on healthy and promising foundations. In order to enable cooperation to grow and become strong we need to strengthen it continually with vigor and determination so as to make it a solid future asset, Field Marshal Samora Machel said. He later said that Sweden's participation in industry, mineral exploitation and agriculture proves and reactivates the friendship between our two peoples.

President Samora Machel also reiterated Mozambique's support for the struggle of the peoples of East Timor and Western Sahara. He called for withdrawal from those territories by the Indonesian and Moroccan occupation forces in order to facilitate their people's right to self-determination and independence.

In reply, the Swedish prime minister said that despite the geographical situation, his country feels obligated to solidarize with the liberation struggle in southern Africa. Thorbjorn Falladin also stressed that Sweden is ready to give more support to the efforts being made by our country for its reconstruction and development.

The banquet hosted by President Samora Machel for the Swedish prime minister was attended by representatives of the FRELIMO Party, the government and mass organizations.

CSO: 4728/101

MOZAMBIQUE

INCREASING SWEDISH ASSISTANCE REVIEWED

Maputo NOTICIAS in Portuguese 28 Jul 81 p 3

[Report on interview with Swedish Ambassador Finn Bergstrand by Jose Pinto de Sa; date and place not specified]

[Excerpts] Sweden is the chief source of economic assistance to the RPM [People's Republic of Mozambique].

Since 1965, when the first Swedish contribution was made to the Mozambique Institute in Dar es Salaam, Sweden has given the Mozambican people about 7 million contos.

In Ambassador Finn Bergstrand's opinion, Prime Minister Thorbjorn Falldin's upcoming visit to the RPM will confirm the growing cooperation between the two countries.

In 1980, Sweden was the major source of economic assistance to Mozambique, providing more than 1.25 million contos.

Finn Bergstrand, Sweden's ambassador to Mozambique, emphasized that for this year the amount has been increased to almost 1.5 million contos. Finn Bergstrand explained: "It is a gift, not a loan to be repaid. I want to emphasize that that is what Sweden means by aid."

The Swedish ambassador explained further: "About 560,000 contos represent direct aid in cash. It is what we call Import Support. This involves money that Mozambique uses as it wishes to pay for imports in any sector."

Explaining the kinds of Swedish aid to Mozambique, Ambassador Bergstrand continued: "Another portion of the budget constitutes the so-called Consultation Fund, and in 1981 it will total about 175,000 contos. This is a fund to be used by Mozambique to pay expert consultants for various projects."

That fund has already financed a large consulting project for surveying the existing situation in the transportation sector nationwide. After agriculture, transportation constitutes the most important field of cooperation between Sweden and the RPM.

In the same field, Sweden is involved in consulting services for improving the national airports, technical and administrative cooperation with the LAM [Mozambique Airlines], and the reorganization of coastal navigation.

The ambassador also discussed Swedish participation in consultation services for the future national telecommunications system and construction of the Cabora Bassa 2 hydroelectric plant.

Finn Bergstrand pointed out: "The biggest project using Swedish financing is, however, in the sector of agriculture. We are participating jointly with the other Nordic countries in a program known as MONAP [expansion unknown]. Swedish participation exceeded 300,000 contos in 1980." That Nordic program comprises about 20 different projects scattered around the country.

After detailing the aid granted in the form of Import Support and the Consultation Fund, the Swedish ambassador emphasized that there is also the Personnel Fund, which amounts to about 35,000 contos.

He explained: "This consists of supplying the Mozambican Government with the foreign-exchange portion of funds for recruiting foreign technical personnel." He added that about 1,000 cooperation workers are partially paid by that means.

We asked: "Are they exclusively Swedish cooperation workers?"

"Not at all! For that matter, none of them is Swedish. About 60 percent are Portuguese, and another 40 percent are South Americans."

After also mentioning cooperation in the field of education, the ambassador talked last about the forestry sector, where Swedish technology is traditionally tops. Commenting on the Manica industrial forestry project, which has already begun to be established by IFLOMA E.E. [expansion unknown], he said: "This is a big project being financed jointly by a Swedish grant, a loan from the Arab Bank for African Economic Development, and the Mozambican Government."

We remarked: "So there is solid cooperation between the two countries."

Ambassador Bergstrand said: "Certainly! Between the last two budgets there has been a considerable increase. And for this year, incidentally, it was the largest increase received by any country receiving Swedish aid. Allowing for inflation, Mozambique was the only country to show a real increase. Cooperation between the two countries is certainly increasing."

"In my country, we follow the problems of southern Africa with great interest." After emphasizing that the decision to support Mozambique was unanimous among the various Swedish political parties, the ambassador said that Sweden also cooperates with Tanzania, Zimbabwe, Angola, Zambia, and Botswana.

Finn Bergstrand said: "Sweden shares Mozambican viewpoints concerning the South African regime and wants to contribute, as far as it can, toward helping the peoples of southern Africa achieve political and economic independence."

And he concluded by saying: "I am certain that our prime minister and your president will have much to talk about on a common basis."

11798

CSO: 4728/92

MOZAMBIQUE

DECREE OF STATE JURISDICTION OVER PRECIOUS METALS

Maputo NOTICIAS in Portuguese 27 Jul 81 p 3

[Decree No 11/81 of the Council of Ministers dated 25 July 1981 on the marketing and exporting of precious metals]

[Text] Following our publication yesterday of Decree No 10/81 regulating the trade in and exports of the country's natural resources, we are printing below Decree No 11/81 concerning the marketing and exporting of gold and silver.

Decree No 11/81 Dated 25 July

Considering the desirability of establishing clearly the regulations that must govern the domestic marketing and the exporting of gold and silver and the stockpiling of those precious metals by centralizing not only the processing and handling operations but also information as to their production, refining, and distribution;

Considering the necessity of exercising strict control over the production and all commercial movement of gold and silver with a view to safeguarding the interests of the national economy;

Therefore, under the terms of article 60, paragraph h) of the Constitution, the Council of Ministers decrees the following:

Article 1

It is the responsibility of the National Directorate for Geology and Mines and Protection of the Subsoil to regulate and supervise mining activity in relation to the extraction of gold, silver, and other precious metallic ores.

Article 2

The private industrial and commercial exploitation of gold, silver, or other precious metals is forbidden.

1. The Ministry of Industry and Power will determine which state-owned enterprise will be given exclusive rights to the industrial preparation and refining of gold, silver, and other precious metals in addition to its exploitation activity.

2. Gold, silver, and other precious metals resulting indirectly from the processing of other ores are also subject to the regulations of this decree.
3. The state-owned enterprise referred to in number 1 above is the authorized entity responsible for assaying and certifying the purity and fineness of gold, silver, and other precious metals.
4. The importation of gold, silver, and other precious metals and their exportation, if produced domestically, are the responsibility of the above-mentioned state-owned enterprise under the licensing, direction, and supervision of the Bank of Mozambique.

Article 3

The Bank of Mozambique is responsible for establishing regulations governing the trading, selling, or obtaining of gold, silver, and other precious metals, regardless of their form or stage of processing, and the respective licensing.

1. Only the Bank of Mozambique may buy or sell gold and silver in coin, bars, and ingots.
2. Any and all activity for the recovery through chemical or mechanical means of gold, silver, and other precious metals that may be a part of metallic alloys or of other products is subject to special licensing by the Bank of Mozambique and is also subject to the latter's supervision.

Article 4

All production of gold, silver, and other precious metals will be turned over to the Bank of Mozambique, which, in agreement with the Ministry of Finance, will determine its use for the following purposes:

Government or bank reserves.

Export.

The domestic market.

1. The Bank of Mozambique, in coordination with the National Directorate for Geology and Mines and Protection of the Subsoil and in consultation with the state-owned enterprise referred to in article 2, number 1, will determine the domestic stock to be used by hospitals, laboratories, and the local jewelry industry.
2. Establishment of the domestic stock, as well as the respective control function and management responsibility, will be the responsibility of the state-owned enterprise, which will have recourse to domestic production and imports when necessary and when given special authorization by the Bank of Mozambique.
3. Once the domestic stock has been established, the Bank of Mozambique will acquire the remaining gold, silver, and other precious metals at officially established prices.

Article 5

Individuals and collective persons are prohibited from exporting gold, silver in coin, bars, ingots, or any other form the metal may take, or other precious metals without proof of legal possession or temporary importation, as the case may be.

Article 6

This decree becomes effective immediately.

Approved by the Council of Ministers.

Let it be published.

President of the Republic
Samora Moises Machel

11798
CSO: 4728/92

FALLING SCHOLASTIC ACHIEVEMENT LEVEL AMONG STUDENTS IN CUBA

Maputo NOTICIAS in Portuguese 7 Aug 81 p 3

[Excerpts] "Socialist emulation in our schools is the thermometer that measures the degree of commitment by students to the manifold tasks rounding out the educational and training process." That is what our reporters were told by the head of the delegation representing the group of Mozambican students and teachers in Cuba who, having been awarded the distinction of "the best among the best," have returned to our country for a vacation.

Virgilio Zacarias Juvane also said that in the four Mozambican schools in the Republic of Cuba, the practice of socialist emulation in the educational centers is not seen merely as a fleeting activity with meaning only during the school year. "For everyone"--students and teachers--"it is a constant and permanent practice that serves as an incentive to fulfill the obligations that each one must carry out."

Linking Theory With Practice

After saying that the quite reasonable level of political training characterizing the students generally is enabling the Mozambicans to maintain constantly greater esteem among students from other African countries, the head of the delegation of our students in Cuba said that "the link between technical work and practical knowledge explains the extent to which organization in our schools has increased."

This explains why the progress of the students and their classification as best among the best are not seen simply in terms of scholastic achievement. Along with scholastic achievement, there is practical achievement through the practical demonstration of each individual's psychomotor abilities.

Virgilio Zacarias said that the conditions in which the students study and work (with abundant teaching materials of good quality and well-equipped laboratories) are also factors which combine to insure them of good results at the end of the year. Discussing the level of scholastic achievement, which this year was lower than in the 2 preceding years, Virgilio, who is also a teacher, said that there was a combination of various factors making it impossible to compare this year's results with those of the 2 previous years.

In the area of production, however, this year's results exceeded the activity levels of the previous years. And in the opinion of the head of the delegation of students

who have returned here for a vacation, "with every period that passes, our level of organization in the productive process also increases."

The vacationing students are going to engage in a few activities called for by the schedule assigned to them, and to the extent possible, they are to go back to their home provinces, where they will visit their families.

11798
CSO: 4728/100

SELLERS REFUSE TO COMPLY WITH LOWERED FOOD PRICES

Maputo NOTICIAS in Portuguese 7 Aug 81 p 1

[Excerpts] The sellers at the market stalls in the bazaars and in some fresh vegetable shops are engaging in a genuine boycott of the lower vegetable prices recently established for Maputo by the Government of the RPM [People's Republic of Mozambique].

The reaction by that significant class of small merchants may jeopardize supplies for the inhabitants as well as the production that will soon be available in increasing quantities in the rural areas.

Indifference and Insults

Complaints about almost every market in the capital have been cropping up from the inhabitants who visit those markets to buy vegetables and demand that they be charged the new prices that have been in effect since 1 August.

As a result of indifference, insults directed at customers, or statements aimed at challenging the recently adopted measure, the new prices and the marketing of vegetables are becoming the target of a general boycott.

Thousands of sellers with stalls in the bazaars or small vegetable shops have reacted to the measure with an obvious parasite-class spirit.

The lowering of vegetable prices has restricted the margin of speculation, but not the profit, that that "lower middle class of the bazaars" had been charging on essential items for supplying the population.

In the bazaars and some vegetable shops, commercial activity is turning into a violent political and social conflict between the merchants and consumers who demand that they be charged the new prices.

"Go eat the new price." "Go ask the Executive Council for tomatoes." "Season your food with that paper price." Those are some of the many insulting answers people get when they demand the products covered by the recent measure.

In other cases, the reaction has been to adopt less open methods. Instead of openly refusing to sell the products at the new prices, some merchants keep those items under the counter or in places where they cannot be seen by the consuming public.

They then claim to be out of those products and choose to sell them only to customers they know who are willing to buy them at speculative prices.

The disputes in which the inhabitants have been involved in those sales outlets mean that the measure for lowering prices, which was adopted to improve supplies, is turning against the consumers themselves. This contradiction results in large measure from the inefficient inspection mechanisms. The apathy of some of the few existing inspectors translates as tacit support for the reaction by the "bazaar bourgeoisie."

Inspectors in Complicity?

"Here we don't sell lettuce by the kilogram. If you want it, it is 20 meticais a head. And you can go tell the inspector if you want to--that won't cause me any problems." That was how one saleswoman in the central market responded to the lower price, as firmly and matter-of-factly as you please, when one customer protested last Saturday, the day when the new schedule went into effect.

Although we could not confirm any specific case, some of the complaints we learned about even include accusations of complicity by inspectors.

The lowering of prices was immediately reflected in increased consumption by the inhabitants.

The official drop in retail vegetable prices has brought a sharp increase in consumption, creating the conditions for insuring the sale of everything that reaches the market. In such conditions, many of the suppliers are no longer subject to blackmail by the numerous retailers on whom they previously depended.

In these new conditions, however, there are also appearing new parallel channels which, while not as blatant, are continuing to be based on speculation. In response to the large increase in demand made possible by the lower prices, some of those suppliers are in fact trying to sell their products at prices slightly higher than those authorized.

To quote one of those suppliers whom we contacted, "the tables have been turned."

But it will be necessary to demonstrate quickly and in practice in this specific case that in Mozambique the interests of the workers prevail over those of a handful of "candidates" for the lower middle class.

In our opinion, it would help a great deal to open up "model stalls" in the bazaars under the control of the organization concerned with marketing. Those stalls should be uncompromising in charging no more than the established prices.

11798
CSO: 4728/100

BRIEFS

SOLIDARITY WITH HAITIAN COMMUNISTS--Yesterday morning in Maputo, Samora Moises Machel, chairman of the FRELIMO Party and president of the People's Republic of Mozambique [RPM], received Gerard Pierre Charles, member of the Political Bureau of the United Party of Haitian Communists, who is currently visiting our country. Gerard Pierre Charles came to Mozambique with the mission of delivering to the FRELIMO Party and the Government of the RPM an invitation to participate in the International Conference on Solidarity with Haiti, which will take place in Panama from 18 to 20 September this year. And yesterday afternoon, the Haitian delegation headed by Gerard Charles held talks with a FRELIMO Party delegation headed by Marcelino dos Santos, member of the Permanent Political Committee and Central Committee secretary for party economic policy. At the start of the talks, the secretary for economic policy said that as President Samora Machel had said during his meeting with the delegation that morning, the Mozambican people, the FRELIMO Party, and our government fully support the Haitian people in the struggle they have been carrying on to liquidate the dictatorship that is oppressing them. For his part, the head of the Haitian delegation stressed the importance of our country's participation in the conference on solidarity with his people, saying also that both peoples are engaged in a common struggle against imperialism. The FRELIMO Party delegation also included Antonio Hama Thai, first party secretary for the city of Maputo; Jose Julio Andrade, directeur de cabinet in the office of the chairman of the FRELIMO Party; and other party members. [Excerpts] [Maputo NOTICIAS in Portuguese 29 Jul 81 p 1] 11798

FIRE DAMAGE TO BAGASSE--About 1,000 tons of bagasse were destroyed by a fire that broke out in the early morning hours on the 20th of this month (at about 0030 hours) in one of the warehouses at the FASOL [Associated Oil Factories, Inc] oil and soap factory in Matola in Maputo. A brigade from the Public Pescue Corps (Firemen) arrived promptly but was unable to extinguish the fire until about 1830 hours the same day. According to information gathered by our team of reporters sent to the scene, the fire resulted from spontaneous combustion in the bagasse that has been stored there for a long time in excessive quantities. The damage is estimated at more than 5,000 contos. The 1,000 tons destroyed by the fire were located in a seed warehouse, but the seed was not touched by the flames. About 7,000 tons of bagasse have been stored at the factory since last year because no market could be found for it. It is known, however, that bagasse is a great fertilizer. The national director of industry and power said: "But so far there has been no response from the Ministry of Agriculture as to the best place to send it." But he did not rule out the possibility of extracting more oil from it. The official concluded by saying that the fire would in no way halt operations at the factory, which will continue its normal pace of work. He said: "Supplies are not endangered." [Excerpts] [Maputo TEMPO in Portuguese 26 Jul 81 p 7] 11798

BREZHNEV CONGRATULATORY MESSAGE--On the occasion of the sixth anniversary of the proclamation of our national independence, the secretary general of the CPSU and leader of the Soviet people, L. Brezhnev, has sent President Samora Machel a message referring to that date. After expressing the warmest and most sincere congratulations to President Samora Machel, the entire Mozambican people, the FRELIMO Party, and the Government of the People's Republic of Mozambique, Brezhnev says that "the Soviets follow with immense interest and fellow feeling the consistent implementation of the line laid down by the FRELIMO Party, which is aimed at laying the foundations in your country of the socialist society and consolidating national independence and sovereignty." The message from the Soviet leader emphasizes: "The strong anti-imperialist orientation of your foreign policy and your country's resolute support of the national liberation movements identify Mozambique with the progressive forces struggling to eliminate all forms of oppression." After expressing his certainty that the friendly relations existing between the People's Republic of Mozambique and the USSR, as well as between the FRELIMO Party and the CPSU, will continue in the future to develop in conformity with the Friendship and Cooperation Treaty, L. Brezhnev concludes his message by expressing the hope for big new successes in the struggle to carry out the tasks of raising the national economy and culture and building socialism. [Text]
[Maputo NOTICIAS in Portuguese 24 Jun 81 p 1] 11798

CSO: 4728/100

BRIEFS

MONEY FOR WALVIS BAY--Last week the South African administration made a special effort to stimulate the economy of Walvis Bay with SA decentralization board approval of comprehensive support measures for industrialists. The support measures comprise the following: a 5.5% interest subsidy on loans for land, buildings and other assets, making the subsidized interest-rate for a ten-year minimum 8.05% compared with today's base rate of 13.55%. A 30% tax break on the value of manufacturing machinery and plant, to be spread out in equal segments over three years, and a 40% tax break on the basis of salaries paid to colored and black workers over a six-year time period. Both breaks are converted to non-taxable cash allowances if the business is not liable to taxation. A railway rebate on freight of 30% on transportation costs of products manufactured in Walvis Bay and shipped from there by rail. Tender price preference of 5% on government tenders and 10% on tenders from black authorities. Housing loans for key personnel. [Text] [Windhoek REPUBLIKEIN in Afrikaans 23 Jul 81 p 2]

OWAMBO LEADER'S SPOUSE MURDERED--According to Owamboland secretary Callie Reinecke, SWAPO terrorists kidnaped and murdered the wife of a member of the Owambo legislative assembly. The incident happened last Thursday when a group of terrorists showed up in the Kwambi region. Reinecke stated that the terrorists threatened Mrs. Antuya Scimwetheluni with their rifles and took her with them. Her body was discovered two days later. [Text] [Windhoek REPUBLIKEIN in Afrikaans 24 Jul 81 p 3]

CSO: 4701/25

EDITORIAL STRESSES IMPORTANCE OF AFFORESTATION

Niamey LE SAHEL in French 4 Aug 81 p 1

[Text] Thank God: Niger has just celebrated the 21st anniversary of independence, the Tree Festival, and Idd ul Fitir, fervently and joyfully, but also with moderation. It is plain that these are three events of great importance in that they form an integral part of the history of our country.

As a Muslim country, Niger has continually observed the injunctions of our sacred religion. The Nigerian people have continually proved their adherence to the Islamic community, the Muslim world, a world accustomed to the virtues of tolerance, solidarity, peace and justice; a world which works for the health and the happiness of its sons, posterity, and the planet.

It is no accident that these terms--peace, justice, happiness, and prosperity--make up the essence of the message that President Seyni Kountche sent to all the heads of states of friendly and fraternal Muslim countries. It is no accident either that we are constantly talking about security. In Niger, we are religiously devoted to peace, for it makes possible the further consolidation of national unity and the maintenance of stability. Without peace or stability, there is no progress. The mediation efforts undertaken by Col Seyni Kountche himself, and the good offices he has extended to certain capitals, proceed from our determination to see peace prevail in the sub-region, in Africa, and in the world.

For countries like ours, without access to the sea, belonging to that fringe of the earth which always continues to find itself on the "path to development," and these activities affecting our environment. Information and awareness campaigns should be continued at all levels and in all parts of the country. We must save the trees! This objective must be among the foremost of our priorities.

The celebration of the 21st anniversary of independence was marked by the traditional message to the nation which establishes the new directions for the country. Twenty-one years in the life of a man, as in the life of a nation, are important. At the same time as it signifies the reaching of majority, this age suggests also that one has acquired some experience and had some contact with realities. Now with Niger moving ahead at a time when the international situation is very serious, one can only praise the efforts of its people. This courage and determination were saluted in the chief of state's message of 2 August. Yes, Niger will conquer the desert, conquer under-development, and poverty.

9516

CSO: 4719/265

NIGER

BRIEFS

JAPANESE AID--Japan has donated 2 billion CFA francs to the Niger Government for extension work on the second electricity power station in Niamey. The agreement was signed at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs this morning by the secretary of state for foreign affairs and the Japanese ambassador to Niger. [Niamey Domestic Service in French 1900 GMT 21 Aug 81 AB]

CSO: 4719/324

SHAGARI ON LIBYAN INTERVENTION IN CHAD

JN221900 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1735 GMT 22 Aug 81

[Text] Khartoum, 22 Aug (SUNA)—Nigerian President Shehu Shagari has said that the Libyan forces entered Chad without the approval of the OAU and the special committee on the Chadian problem and without the approval of the Chadian people.

In a press statement he made before leaving Khartoum this evening, Shagari added that because of the Libyan presence in Chad, the OAU must shoulder its duty by immediately sending its peace-keeping force to Chad to secure peace and stability.

President Shagari explained that when the Libyans alleged that they entered Chad at Goukouni's request, we said that Goukouni had no authority to invite the Libyans because he is merely the head of a transitional government.

He added that the OAU made a mistake because it did not move quickly when a resolution was adopted on establishing the peace-keeping force. The failure of this force to take up positions gave the Libyans the opportunity to intervene and occupy.

He added that had he been given the chance to attend the recent Nairobi African summit, he would have submitted a proposal insisting the Libya agree to withdraw its forces from Chad and stop interfering in the affairs of the member states as a precondition for convening the next summit in Libya. He said that it was unfortunate that the OAU adopted the decision without any conditions.

He added that his talks with President Numayri tackled issues of mutual concern on the international arena, particularly the African issues like the problem of Namibia, struggle against imperialism and apartheid. He said that his and President Numayri's views on those issues were identical.

Shagari added that his talks with Numayri dealt in detail with the Libyan method of interfering in the internal affairs of the OAU member states, Chad's problem, means of establishing and securing peace and the situation in other African areas, particularly the Western Sahara issue.

He said that the dispute between Somalia and Ethiopia was discussed by him and President Numayri in their capacity as member of the good offices committee on the dispute. He added that they also discussed the subject of the north-south dialogue.

President Shagari said that he will meet with African leaders in Nairobi to discuss this during the meetings of the committee of wisemen on the problem of the Western Sahara in order to coordinate and discuss the joint strategy in preparation for the conference which will be held in Mexico next October on the north-south dialogue.

He added that his talks with Numayri were friendly and fraternal and were imbued with honesty. He said that he considers Sudan his second homeland. He pointed out to the historic ties between the two countries.

The talks between Shagari and Numayri were concluded in Khartoum today. Before leaving Sudan, the Nigerian president visited the Nigerian Embassy in Khartoum.

CSO: 4704/5

NIGERIAN, FRENCH VIEWS ON CHAD, LIBYA SAID SIMILAR

AB231133 Paris AFP in French 1701 GMT 22 Aug 81

[Text] Lagos, 22 Aug (AFP)--France and Nigeria have drawn up a strategy of joint action to help solve the Chadian problem, Jean-Pierre Cot, French cooperation minister, stated on the second day of his stay in Nigeria. Cot, who held discussions with the Nigerian head of state, Shehu Shagari, told AFP on Saturday that France and Nigeria have identical views on this subject; that is, that the solution to the problem should be above all African.

One identical viewpoint was noted concerning Libya's African policy, the minister explained. We have quite a similar position, which is that of a necessary steadfastness to check Libya's ambitions, he added. Nigerians, like us, feel that the actual capacity of Libyan action is less than the proclaimed ambitions, and that there is bluff in the Libyan policy. The best answer is simply to face things with steadfastness and discipline, without being carried away by the violence of speeches.

In this regard, the French cooperation minister repeated that France will not sell even one gun to Libya as long as the latter does not give proof of peaceful intentions, especially in Africa. He added that this decision has been enforced since 21 May.

Asked about French activities within the contact group on Namibia (France, the United States, Canada, Great Britain, West Germany), Jean-Pierre Cot affirmed that France's ambition is to become the progressive wing of this group. The functioning of the contact group is not easy, he said. It is at the edge of collapse. However, it appears to me that it probably represents, with the current process, the only chance to arrive at a solution to the Namibian problem through peaceful means. We hope that this group will make some progress in the weeks ahead, Cot went on to say. The UN Extraordinary Assembly in September will be an important time for everyone to explain his ideas.

Mr Jean-Pierre Cot, who suggested a diplomatic solution to the Namibian issue, also showed firmness. If the procedure does not begin concretely in the next few months, there is little chance that a diplomatic solution will be useful and as a result, he asserted, the Namibian people will have no other recourse but arms and violence.

On the problem of sanctions against South Africa, the French minister asserted that France was rather skeptical about its application as historically it has never solved much in international life. Such a decision would merely be a matter of principle, he said. We do not think realistic means of applying sanctions in the present international context exist unless we obtain the approval of all the permanent members of the UN Security Council, Jean-Pierre Cot added.

Referring to his talks with Nigerian leaders, the minister-delegate for cooperation explained that he primarily intended to establish political contact and that his visit was aimed at harmonizing the position of the two countries in the political sphere, especially in regard to South Africa and on the economic sphere with regard to raw materials.

In addition, we wanted to dispel a certain diffuse tension that had existed between our two countries for many years because of France's relations with Francophone Africa as well as the presence of French troops in Africa. The explanations that I was able to give to President Shagari were received, understood and otherwise accepted. The Nigerians, the minister said, understand our stand on the presence of French troops on the continent, which is explained by the need not to create destabilization by creating a vacuum which would immediately be filled by others.

I found President Shagari to be an attentive and warm person, Cot concluded. It was apparent from our talks that we not only share similar views, but that we also have similar ways of seeing problems, especially the hotbeds existing in Africa today, and that we have similar ways of dealing with them.

CSO: 4719/323

NIGERIA

'NAN' REPORTS CRASH OF AIR FORCE PLANE ACCIDENTAL

AB211225 Lagos NAN in English 1155 GMT 21 Aug 81

[Text] Lagos, 21 Aug (NAN)--The Nigerian Air Force plane which was reported missing recently was said to have crashed into the sea shortly after take-off from Calabar airport, an investigation by the NEWS AGENCY OF NIGERIA (NAN) has shown.

An authoritative source at the Nigerian Air Force yesterday told a NAN correspondent that the aircraft was going on a routine mission when the incident occurred. The source said that the mission had nothing to do with the rebellion between Nigeria and Cameroon. The source said: It is unthinkable that Cameroon could seize our plane, adding, the fact that we don't make noise does not suggest that we don't know what to do when such an incident occurs.

Speaking to a NAN correspondent in his office yesterday in connection with the missing plane, the minister of defense, Alhaji Akanbi Oniyangi, said that such mishaps during routine missions in the military are not unusual occurrences, adding that it was unpatriotic for a newspaper in this country to link the incident with Nigeria's relations with Cameroon.

He said that there was no truth whatsoever in the story published by the NIGERIAN STANDARD, which linked the incident with the country's relations with Cameroon.

He said that at a time when Cameroon had agreed to pay full compensation for the five Nigerian soldiers who were killed at the border and when relations between the two countries were being normalized, enemies of Nigeria were trying to put a wedge between them.

He said that the federal government was determined to let peace and stability prevail in the country, adding that there was no threat from our neighbors because they are all friendly.

CSO: 4700/379

NIGERIA

BRIEFS

OIL IMPORTERS' CONTRACT DISCUSSIONS--London, 25 Aug (AFP)--Nigeria has invited petroleum importers to come to Lagos to discuss emergency contracts, it was learned Tuesday from petroleum circles in London, which think that these contracts could lead to an official price reduction of Nigerian crude oil. These invitations, which come in the wake of the failure of the OPEC conference in Geneva, were sent out by the Nigerian National Petroleum Corporation to former customers who stopped buying its oil because it was too expensive. Petroleum circles think the discussion would enable Lagos to explore the way for establishing its new rates at a level which will restore Nigeria's oil sales. It will be recalled that it was Nigeria which called for the recent Geneva conference in order to remedy the considerable fall in its petroleum exports. According to London petroleum experts, Nigeria's crude oil price could be reduced to the \$40-35 range, perhaps to \$36.6 a barrel to become competitive again with Saudi Arabia. But it is not yet known whether the reduction will be made officially, through secret reductions or through new credit facilities.
[Text] [AB252110 Paris AFP in French 1855 GMT 25 Aug 81]

CSO: 4719/323

SENEGAL

GOVERNMENT RELYING ON INCREASE IN FRENCH AID

Paris LE MONDE in French 12 Aug 81 p 5

[Article by Pierre Biarnes]

[Text] After going to Cameroon and Ghana, Jean-Pierre Cot, deputy minister for cooperation and development, arrived Monday 10 August in Senegal, where he will stay until Friday before returning to Paris. In Accra, Cot reached agreement with President Limann, who received him twice, on the principle of strengthening Franco-Ghanaian cooperation.

Senegal's socialist leaders are expecting significantly increased aid from their French comrades at a time when they are confronted with serious problems caused by the drought which has hit the country hard for more than a decade, by unfavorable world economic conditions, and by certain mistakes in direction and management.

Following a steep decline over the last few years, barely 60,000 tons of unshelled ground-nuts--the principle resource of the country for more than a century--were marketed from last season's (1980-1981) production, compared to 800,000 to 1 million tons in the past. Neither the relative take-off of fishing and tourism, nor the fairly good performance of phosphates has been able to compensate for the disastrous effects of this collapse on most other branches of activity and also on the finances of the state. Since 1 July, external debt service (an annual burden on the order of F CFA 35 billion) has been suspended, in hopes of renegotiating it this fall with Paris. In recent months, even paying the salaries of employees has posed several problems.

In such a context, the social and political tranquility, both in Dakar and in the bush, is in a sort of state of grace that is probably not unrelated to the democratization of public life which has come about gradually in recent years and has clearly been intensified since Mr Diouf became the head of state. But the chances for an explosion are still no less real. If it is not carefully tended, this miracle may not last indefinitely.

The Disengagement of the State

Independently of the effects of additional international financial assistance and a courageous austerity policy, undertaken largely on the advice of the

International Monetary Fund, two important series of measures nevertheless offer hope, at least in the medium term, of some recovery: a lightening of the bureaucratic grip of the state on the economic institutions, and (at last) the start of a serious struggle against corruption.

Addressing the implications of the inability of many of its agents to properly administer a goodly number of the big industries which have totally or partially passed over into the public sector since independence, the state has wisely moved in recent months toward a fairly significant disengagement in this field. This is notably the case in the agricultural sector, where the dissolution of the National Office of Cooperation and Assistance for Development (ONCAD), a year ago, should make it possible for the peasant cooperatives, which have thereby recovered substantial autonomy, to gradually resume the cultivation of ground-nuts, which had little by little been abandoned as a result of the large ground-rent charged in recent years.

The adoption at the beginning of the summer of severe measures to suppress illegal income and, even more, the recent ministerial shake-up (LE MONDE of 8 and 9-10 August) should contribute to rally the support of broad segments of the public, which is more and more irritated by the life-style flaunted, contrary to the principles being preached, by certain eminent individuals in the governmental organization. Over the longer term, and even though the plan may be criticized by the opposition, substantial hopes in Dakar remain pinned to the development of the Senegal River, the first phase of which is to begin in the next few months, with France making a major financial contribution.

9516

CSO: 4719/283

LANDING SAVANE DISCUSSES AJ-MRDN'S PROGRAMS, GOALS

Paris LE CONTINENT in French 31 Jul 81 p 5

[Interview with Landing Savane, leader of the And-Jef Revolutionary Movement for the New Democracy (AJ-MRDN), by Jerome Carlos and Aliou Diongue; date and place not given]

[Text] Since the adoption in Senegal, on 24 April, of a nonexclusive multiparty system, half a dozen parties have already been officially recognized.

Among them is the And-Jef, Revolutionary Movement for the New Democracy (MRDN), led by Landing Savane.

About 30, tall, discreet and exhibiting great simplicity: Such was our impression of this engineer-statistician-economist and father of two children, whose party wants to build a "new democratic government" in Senegal, "that is, a government headed by the working class, linked to the peasantry." Landing Savane gracefully answered our questions on the objectives of the AJ-MRDN, its references to the thought of Mao Tse-tung, the class struggle in Senegal and the new party's African and international positions.

[Question] Your party, the And-Jef-MRDN (Revolutionary Movement for the New Democracy), has just been officially authorized in Senegal. Can you introduce it to us, defining your main objectives?

[Answer] The Revolutionary Movement for the New Democracy was set up in 1973 underground. It is not a Marxist-Leninist party, as part of the press claims, but rather, a movement that brings together Marxist-Leninist militants as well as patriots and democrats who have accepted the program which the MRDN has outlined.

[Question] What is that program?

[Answer] Our program is basically anti-imperialist, antifeudal and antihegemonic. The AJ-MRDN is a party that fights for the creation of a new democratic government, a government headed by the working class, allied with the peasantry.

[Question] You are also called "Maoist."

[Answer] I, myself, and some other comrades in the AJ follow Marxism-Leninism and the thought of Mao Tse-tung, but we are not pro-Chinese and we are not in agreement with the policy now followed by China, which is a big-power policy, with all that that implies. As Maoist militants, it is less a question of applying the formulas than of studying the specific situation of our country, Senegal, of assimilating general principles of revolutionary theory and of applying, independently, a strategy and tactic adapted to the conditions that are ours.

[Question] And if, in spite of all that, you should still be criticized for making most of your references to persons outside the country?

[Answer] You would agree that Marxism-Leninism was born somewhere. Created by Marx, it was continued by Lenin and developed by Mao. We want to integrate into the universal science of the revolution the teachings and experiences of Senegalese revolutionary militants.

Of all the parties, we are the only ones to make a real effort to rehabilitate some of the great unrecognized figures in the liberation struggle of our people. For that purpose, the Senegalese Cultural Front that we support has published brochures on Lamine Senghor, a precursor of the Senegalese communist movement, and Alin Sitoye Diatta, a prestigious female figure in the anticolonialist struggle of the people of Casamance.

During the 1979 and 1980 school vacations, the Patriotic Youth already organized the Lamine Senghor Festival. The And-Jef firmly intends to develop the fight for the popularization of the most consistent figures in our people's resistance fight against colonialism and imperialism.

[Question] What are your short-term tactics, given the prospect of the general elections in Senegal in 1983?

[Answer] Our party's National Executive Committee has just met but has made no decision on the elections. Although these elections are important, our view is that they constitute but a phase in the struggle we are waging. We are not an election-oriented party.

We have no illusions: The neocolonial power will always organize hand-crafted elections. It seems more important to us to make our people more aware, to organize their struggle better so that they will be able to make their voices heard in order to fulfill their aspirations.

[Question] What types of alliance will you be called upon to make? With whom and on what bases?

[Answer] The problem of alliances is an important problem that no party can avoid. However, the essential question is to know the principles around which those alliances are articulated. We shall be able to be more explicit after the publication of the programs of the different parties and after they have clarified the objectives of their struggle.

In the meantime, we are happy about the fact that the members of the Proletarian Democratic Organization (ODP) and some members of the Union for the People's Democracy have joined our ranks.

[Question] How can you truly make the people more aware by using an organ of information such as JAY DOLE BI [sic; JAY DOOLE BI], which is published in French?

[Answer] You are right to pose the problem of the use of national languages. JAY DOLE BI helps to make our views known, that is true. But it is not an organ of the AJ-MRDN. Our approach to the masses takes place more through the work of our members in the villages and enterprises and, naturally enough, in our different national languages. We will thereby be able to win the masses over to our policies and bring them to assume their historic responsibilities.

[Question] You define yourself as a worker-peasant party. How do you view the class struggle in a society such as Senegalese society, and what is your position on the religious bodies, for example?

[Answer] The class struggle is going on before our very eyes. In the enterprises, the workers are defending their rights vis-a-vis management with increasing firmness. In the rural areas, the peasants are rising up against the different types of taxes, as hard hit as they are by the absence of any strict water policy on the part of the neocolonial government. The latter enjoys the backing of certain feudal or even religious forces. However, we oppose the use of a religion in order to justify and continue the exploitation and oppression of our people. At the same time, we properly appreciate the action of some religious leaders, who have quite a clear idea of the problems of our people. Having said that much, we believe that the main force in the fight against neocolonialism cannot reside in the religious leaders or the traditional leaders. The workers and peasants show a sharper awareness of the exploitation of which they are the prime victims and can consequently mobilize, organize and fight to liquidate it.

I would add that the fight against feudalism implies the fight against obscurantism, particularly the fight against superstition, certain caste prejudices or others. That is why we are working to spread the knowledge of modern science among the workers and peasants.

[Question] Some accuse you of being "an antireligious party."

[Answer] Obviously, that is false. Our program explicitly contains the freedom to believe as one chooses and to exercise his religion, but within the framework of a lay state. Our movement contains members of all philosophical and religious beliefs. We are opposed to religious fanaticism and work for tolerance, which alone can consolidate national unity.

[Question] Making the masses aware is undoubtedly part of an overall strategy to take power, a necessary condition for seeing the accomplishment of desired reforms.

[Answer] In our opinion, it is not a question of reform. One cannot reform neocolonialism. It must be liquidated. To do so, we are working for broad, far-reaching support of the masses for the type of society proposed in our program. Once such support exists, no force can oppose the will of the people. Only the people can, using suitable means, impose a new society capable of bringing us out of the deep crisis in which our country finds itself.

[Question] Your movement, which is anti-imperialist and antifeudal, is also anti-hegemonic. What does that mean?

[Answer] That means resolute opposition to any domination by foreign powers, whichever they may be and whatever form that domination might take. We oppose the presence of French troops in our country. Moreover, the two superpowers (the United States and the Soviet Union) pose a serious threat to our country and its people. It is for that reason that we are educating our people in the spirit of political opposition to the warmongering of the two superpowers.

[Question] Senegal is not alone. It evolves in a given regional and international environment.

[Answer] Internationally speaking, Senegal is a neocolony of France. That situation has not changed. French imperialism remains the main enemy of the Senegalese people. The Senegalese neocolonial bourgeoisie, despite the changes that are occurring or that might occur in France, continues its policy of submission and servility to that country. Aside from the relationship of struggle that we have with French imperialism and with other forces of domination in the world, we are for relations of solidarity and mutual support among African nations, first of all, between Third World nations next, and naturally, with other nations in the world, for imperialism has created a world system of domination and exploitation that can only be abolished once and for all through the solidary struggle of the proletariat and of nations all over the world. Concerning the West African subregion, we give our active support to the struggle of the Saharan people, who are fighting annexation by Morocco, the struggle of the Mauritanian people, who are fighting Moroccan expansionism, and finally, the struggle of other nations of the Sahel opposing annexationist aims that could emerge in the subregion.

[Question] Your closing words, Mr Savane?

[Answer] I would conclude by saying, in connection with the preceding question, that we oppose all foreign intervention, which basically arises out of the desire of the imperialist powers to keep Africa under its domination.

Despite certain illusions spread in certain circles concerning the consequences of the coming to power of socialists in France, I should merely like to recall that they have just banned the main opposition parties in the Central African Republic, where the Dacko regime continues to reign without a crown after a brief democratic experiment. It is essential to cast aside our illusions about the liberation of our countries through the action of foreign forces and to work relentlessly to mobilize the people, who alone can guarantee their effective and lasting liberation.

11,464
CSO: 4719/258

PDS LEADER OPTIMISTIC CONCERNING PDS CHANGES

Paris LE CONTINENT in French 4 Aug 81 p 12

[Report on interview with Wade, leader of Senegalese Democratic Party, by Omar Foiti; in Athens, date not given]

[Text] On the eve of its seventh anniversary, which it will celebrate on Saturday 8 August, the Senegalese Democratic Party is organizing a public conference in which its main rival for power in Dakar, the Socialist Party, will participate. In the course of that contradictory conference, Wade's party hopes to demonstrate, facing the leaders of the government party, the inability of the current government to solve the economic crisis in which the country now finds itself.

Wade, who has just participated in the international conference on the situation in Egypt and the Middle East held in Athens, talked at length with us concerning the development of democracy in Senegal. "We say that we have reached the stage of 'democracy-discourse' -- that is, the beginning of democracy," he said, "because the formation of parties alone is not enough to make a democracy. There is no democracy unless there is an objective possibility of democratic alternation in government. If, one day, the people should come out for change, then that change must be effective."

When asked to comment on his party's situation on the Senegalese political scene, the secretary general said: "In 1974, upon the creation of the PDS, we decided to give up our doctrine, labor socialism, in order to go along with the constitution at that time. As soon as it was modified, we resumed our original doctrine. We are naturally not Marxists, but we are on the left of the Socialist Party, which is a socialist party in name only, insofar as the government is freeing itself from all national companies." However, Wade admits that "there is something quite difficult to understand in the PDS doctrine," especially since that party, along with the Socialist Party in power, recruits its followers from the same voters, sociologically speaking. "Although we are a party that claims to follow labor socialism," Wade said, "that socialism has nothing to do with the British labor movement, which is the reflection of the trade unions. Our socialism is more liberal than many types of socialism in Africa."

Concerning the 1983 elections, the secretary general of the PDS said that he was "truly very optimistic" regarding his party and his own chances, even if he thinks that in 2 years, "it is the left which, in a united front, will win the elections." Moreover, he added, "we have managed to start a movement toward the unification of the opposition."

SENEGAL

PS ORGAN DESCRIBES GAMBIA AS 'THORN IN OUR FLESH'

Paris AFRICA AFP in English 11 Aug 81 pp 13, 14

[Text]

DAKAR, August 9 - Senegal's ruling party, reacting to criticism of the army's intervention against the coup in Gambia, says Dakar has always respected the enclave state's sovereignty and "personality" despite the inconvenience of economic loss its existence causes Senegal.

The weekend commentary in L'Unité Africaine, organ of President Abdou Diouf's Socialist Party, touched once again - and at a critical moment - on the question of how close should be Gambia's relationship to Senegal, which is larger, richer, better-armed and surrounds Gambia on three sides.

After Gambia became independent in 1965, a plan for political merger of the two states was drawn up. But it eventually stumbled over the opposition of Gambia's anglophone, urban ruling class, which feared losing its privileges in a union with franco-phone Senegal.

The two West African states then created a SeneGambian committee with a permanent secretariat, and settled for moving slowly toward unity along the path of bilateral agreements, 26 of which have been signed.

Only armed unit

Now, with the failed military coup against President Dawda Jawara having apparently destroyed Gambia's only armed unit - called the Field Force - Sir Dawda has announced that the security services of the two countries will be "integrated".

The Senegalese Socialist Party's commentary, issued after several opposition parties denounced Dakar's intervention to crush the uprising, ran along lines compatible with further integration.

"Gambia and Senegal are unique" said the article in L'Unité Africaine (African Unity). "Throughout the world, there are no other states so completely bound up one in the other.

"You must look to Europe, to the vestiges of the Middle Ages, to find - in the Vatican, San Marino or Liechtenstein - situations resembling even slightly the extreme complexity of Senegal and Gambia..."

"Gambia and Senegal are irremediably one in the other, so that nothing that happens in Banjul (the Gambian capital) can leave us cold", the commentary said.

The Senegalese party said the Dakar government and the Jawara regime had always had cordial relations, the same political philosophy and economic aims.

"However, smuggling both from and in the direction of Gambia has come near ruining our economy and still causes shocks a day. Despite tight customs control, our markets are full of products of every kind sent in from Banjul. Our groundnuts often find their way to the docks of the Gambian capital rather than to our oil-processing plants".

The commentary noted that travelers from Dakar, in the north of Senegal, to Ziguinchor in the south must cross Gambia, spending more time on the short ferry ride on the Gambia river than on the road.

"The many difficulties created by unthinking petty officials (across Gambia) cause delay with incalculable consequences in the shipment of merchandise, in the transport of the injured and ill, in administrative travel, etc.

"So here you have a Gambia that may be friendly, but still represents a splinter in the flesh of Senegal", the Senegalese party organ said.

"Because we respect international law and the Gambian personality, we have always taken the trouble, whatever it cost, to put up with this situation... but there is a limit to tolerance, and for us it was crossed by Kukoi Samba Sanyang (leader of the Gambian coup) and his band of gangsters". (A.F.P.)

SENEGAL

BRIEFS

SENEGAL-FRANCE AGREEMENT--A loan agreement amounting to 450 million CFA francs was signed in Dakar today by Senegalese Minister of Equipment Hassan Seck and French Ambassador Fernand-Rene Wibaux. This money will be used in financing the construction of a building on the site of the former Thes air base at the national air force school. [Dakar Domestic Service in French 2000 GMT 20 Aug 81 AB]

CSO: 4719/324

IMPORTANCE OF TAKING NATIONAL ADULT EDUCATION TESTS

Dar es Salaam UHURU in Swahili 6 Aug 81 p 6

[Editorial: "Our Views"]

[Text] Next week the citizens who have been attending adult education classes will take examinations to test their progress. According to the Ministry of National Education those being instructed will take this examination along with those who either were ready to be tested but were unsuccessful or were not ready to be tested. This will be the third time that national examinations to test those being instructed have been held in the country since the campaign to eliminate ignorance began in 1970. Other national examinations for adult education students were held in 1975 and 1977.

The fact that it is important for those being instructed to take the examinations was explained last night with lucidity by President Nyerere when he was addressing the nation by radio.

First, the question of the individual having proof that he has studied and reached a certain level. It is the results of the examinations which give the individual this proof. As Mwalimu said, if people who complete the university are given their diplomas, the citizens who are obtaining the knowledge to read and write have the right to obtain certificates and documents and brag about these certificates.

Second, by means of examinations the nation can know the stage reached in the major work of eliminating ignorance in the country. By observing the results of examinations, the government will be able to know the steps which must be taken in the future in developing the important work of adult education.

Thus, the important thing for citizens who are registered in adult education courses is to take the examinations next week. Many examination centers have been established in the country to enable every person being instructed who is qualified to take the examinations to obtain the opportunity to do so.

We know that citizens who have registered in classes for adults have done considerable work to attend these classes. Some places in villages have compelled citizens to confront difficult surroundings in their effort to eliminate ignorance. The next examinations are an opportunity to test the results of these efforts. Those who are being instructed will not agree to lose this opportunity.

Another important matter to be borne in mind by those being instructed at every place in the country is the fact that education has no end. The next examinations and all those which have already been held here in the past do not mean that they are the end of studying for those who take these examinations.

Truly, an examination is intended to be an impetus to encourage a person being instructed to study further, whether or not he was successful in the examination he took. We should bear in mind the advice of the President, who said: "Without regard to the stage reached in education and without regard to the results of the examination which you will take, continue to go to class and develop yourself by reading and writing on your own."

CSO: 4749/17

NEED FOR CARE IN HANDLING EXPLOSIVES STRESSED

Dar es Salaam MZALENDU in Swahili 2 Aug 81 p 1

[Editorial: "Our Views"]

[Text] Page five of yesterday's edition of our newspaper UHURU had sad news to the effect that five people died in Mandai village, Nachingwea District after being blown up by a grenade which exploded at the place where they were resting.

This grenade was reported to have been for many days at the place where it exploded, and one police spokesman in Nachingwea said that the grenade exploded after a child, who died as a result of the explosion, amused himself by boring a hole in it.

There is no one who can blame this dead child who played with the grenade, because it is clear that the poor child did not know what he was playing with. It is possible also that the adults who were with him either did not see the child playing with this grenade or did not know that the child was playing with a dangerous object.

Thus this sad event in Mandai village, in Nachingwea must remind and warn us citizens everywhere in Tanzania about the undesirability of playing with objects with which we are unfamiliar.

The accident in Mandai village is not the first of this kind to have occurred in the country recently. Accidents involving people being blown up by grenades have already occurred in other places in the country, people's lives have been lost and other people have been wounded.

Sometimes these explosions occur by very bad luck to people who unknowingly tread on objects or to children playing with these objects. Other accidents are caused by people's instinct to know more about objects which they see. Objects like these are not picked up only in the bush and in rural areas, but also are encountered in buildings. It is possible that a person who handles explosives in his work, like a policeman, soldiers or even militiamen, put these objects in the buildings. Thus these objects usually explode and cause accidents for many people.

It is the responsibility of all citizens, soldiers and of those who are not soldiers to be cautious with these objects which endanger people's lives.

We citizens must avoid the practice of amusing ourselves with objects which we do not understand. If we see objects which we do not understand and which are perplexing, we should make a report to the police or to soldiers in the vicinity.

It is also important for citizens who live in the vicinity and in areas where our soldiers usually conduct exercises to be informed early and they should be alerted not to go in or near the exercise areas. But it is obvious that the request to be cautious should reach all citizens of the areas concerned. Thus they should avoid picking up objects in these areas.

It is the responsibility of all our soldiers who are continuing with work and who are not at work now to bear in mind the evil of placing dangerous objects like grenades in unauthorized areas, like in houses where people live. Grenades and other dangerous objects must be placed in authorized areas which ensure the people's security.

As proven in the war against the dictator Amin, it is the responsibility of all our citizens, soldiers and civilians, to [maintain] defense and security. Now we should join forces in avoiding accidents involving explosives which cause the loss of the lives of some Tanzanians.

CSO: 4749/13

TANZANIA

BRIEFS

DISMISSAL OF OFFICIALS--President Nyerere today retired for public interest three senior officials in Shinyanga region and dismissed two others from the prime minister's office. Those retired for public interest are: Ndugu Omari, a former assistant commissioner of police and regional police commander; (Ndugu Ninja), a former senior superintendent of police and regional security office; and (Ndugu Mwashambwa), a security officer. A government statement released in Dar es Salaam today said the three have been retired following recent developments in Shinyanga region that necessitated the establishment of a special commission of inquiry into the matter. A report by the commission shows the involvement of the three officers into the matter as (?per) allegations. Those dismissed are (Ndugu Juma Wambura), an economist from the prime minister's office and (Ndugu MpalaGasa), a planning officer for Liwale District. A statement said (Ndugu MpalaGasa) lost his job because of his neglect of duty, being a drunkard, quarrelsome and undisciplined. [Text] [EA200314 Dar es Salaam in English to Central and Southern Africa 1600 GMT 19 Aug 81]

CSO: 4700/356

UGANDA

BRIEFS

PLO KAMPALA OFFICE--Uganda today expressed its willingness to open a PLO office in Kampala upon the PLO's request. In a statement to a Saudi daily, the Uganda charge d'affaires in Riyadh expressed his country's total support for the Palestinian cause and the inalienable right of the Palestinian people to an independent state. [Text] [NC221550 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in English 1445 GMT 22 Aug 81]

MINISTER TO DPRK--The minister of agriculture and forestry, Mr Sam Mugwisa, has left for North Korea to attend a 1 week symposium of ministers of agriculture from non-aligned and other developing countries. The minister was seen off at Entebbe airport by North Korean Ambassador to Uganda, Mr Chang To-ho, and senior officials of the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry. [Text] [Kampala Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 21 Aug 81 EA]

CSO: 4700/379

UPPER VOLTA

TIENTARABOUM VISITS IVORY COAST, TOGO

Visit to Ivory Coast

AB142116 Abidjan Domestic Service in French 2000 GMT 14 Aug 81

[Excerpts] The head of state today received the Upper Voltan minister of foreign affairs and cooperation in the late afternoon at the presidential palace. Both men held talks which lasted for nearly 2 hours. Here is the statement made by Mr Felix Tientaraboum after the meeting.

[Begin recording] As Upper Volta has been chairing the Entente Council for 2 years, it is the duty of our head of state, Col Saye Zerbo, chairman of the Military Committee for Recovery and National Progress-following the events you know of which took place in our country--to enter into contact with his fellow heads of state to discuss entente.

It is our duty, which is quite normal, to report on its activities and to try to meet to discuss the activities of the council after 2 years. Therefore, the Upper Voltan head of state intends to convene a meeting of leaders to revive the council and to give a report on the 2 years of Upper Volta's period of chairmanship. This then is the aim of this visit. [End recording]

Ties With Togo

AB142148 Lome Domestic Service in French 1900 GMT 14 Aug 81

[Excerpts] The president and founder of the Togolese People's Rally and president of the republic, Gen Gnassingbe Eyadema, granted an audience this morning at his Lome II private residence to Colonel Tientaraboum, the Upper Voltan minister of foreign affairs and cooperation. Colonel Tientaraboum was accompanied by Diallo Suleiman, permanent secretary for internal affairs; Gbatiomo Ambroise, permanent secretary to the minister of finance; and Viato Jean, deputy director for state protocol. After a long talk with the head of state, Colonel Tientaraboum made the following statement to the press.

[Begin recording] [Question] Sir, on the bilateral level, there has been active cooperation between Upper Volta and Togo. This cooperation can be strengthened every day or every year. Can you explain how the Military Committee for Recovery intends to strengthen this cooperation?

[Answer] We have, through the Military Committee and its government, tried to create a climate of true confidence with all friendly neighboring countries. This is one of the priorities of the committee and the government. These countries are our first partners and you know very well that with Togo, a brotherly country, our relations of cooperation are very many. With Togo, which is one of our outlets to the outside world--that is to the sea--we maintain (?cordial) cooperation and the Military Committee and the government want to strengthen these ties of communications through a rational use of the Lome Port and then construct modern communications networks; I mean good roads and railways, which will enable us to get more supplies than we have in the past. This is, for example, a field of cooperation. Moreover, there is always the need to further strengthen this cooperation, within the framework of what already exists; I mean within the ECOWAS, the Entente Council, both international organizations to which each one of us belongs.

CSO: 4700/360

'AZAP' PRAISES NATION'S RELATIONS WITH FRANCE

AB211651 Kinshasa AZAP in French 0750 GMT 21 Aug 81

[AZAP Commentary: "Strengthening France-Zairian Cooperation"]

[Text] Kinshasa, 21 Aug (AZAP)--The statement which Mr Albert Thabault, French ambassador to Zaire, made following his audience with President Mobutu on Tuesday gives more light on the state of the relations of friendship and cooperation existing between his country and the Republic of Zaire. These relations which have been happily maintained since the era of General de Gaulle are continuing their normal course, the French diplomat stated categorically.

The fairly long and important message which he delivered to the founding chairman of the MPR is, according to several political observers in Kinshasa, a sign that cannot mislead. Even though the contents are confidential, observers strongly believe that the message surely deals with ways to revitalize French-Zairian cooperation.

To this end, it is noted with satisfaction that relations between Paris and Kinshasa have always and constantly been at their best, contrary to the case with some of our partners--including the most important--who, reputed for their ambiguous behavior toward Zaire to the point that their sincerity convinces no one, backbite and do not miss a single opportunity to tread on us.

There is need to comment on the issue of political exiles. The French Government--taking into account the fate of 140 Frenchmen resident in Iran--has barred Iranian political exiles, in particular former President Banisadr, from making hostile statements about their home government.

Yet 20,000 Belgians live in Zaire. The opponents of the Kinshasa government live in Belgium where they have the tendency to make stupid statements about the Zairian authorities. Does the Belgian Government refuse to consider the lot of the 20,000 Belgian nationals living in Zaire? It is a simple link that we are establishing between the attitude of the French Government and that of the Government of the Kingdom of Belgium.

It is surely not out of complacency that the French diplomat asserted that Zaire was one of the most important African countries with which France shares evident cultural ties and that the French head of state stated in his action program that Zaire would have a sizeable share in the increased aid to the Third World.

Coming from the mouth of the representative of the Paris government, this assertion is rightly reassuring and cuts short the pernicious speculations continually being made by the enemies of guide Mobutu and his people since the installation in the Elysee Palace of the socialist, Francois Mitterrand. It is enough to make those who were expecting the contrary and were making fun gnash their teeth.

Mr Penne, the advisor to the president of the French Republic on African Affairs who will soon visit Zaire to meet General Mobutu is expected in Kinshasa with keen interest, because his visit will reveal the style that the new French president intends to give to the relations of friendship and cooperation existing between France and Zaire.

CSO: 4719/323

ZAMBIA

BRIEFS

ARREST OF ARMY OFFICERS--Lusaka, August 10--An unspecified number of prominent Zambians, including army officers, have been arrested in the wake of a recent attempt to free people detained in connection with last October's aborted coup, the Times of Zambia reported today. Quoting President Kenneth Kaunda, The Times said that Valentine Musakanya, former governor of the Bank of Zambia, and Lusaka lawyer Edward Shamwana were among the arrested. They are to appear in court on charges of high treason, the paper said. (A.F.P.) [Text] [London WEST AFRICA in English 3 Aug 81 p 21]

CSO: 4700/357

PM TO LEAD ZANU (PF) 'REBUILDING'

Salisbury THE HERALD in English 11 Aug 81 p 1

[Text]

ZANU (PF) has embarked on a massive rebuilding of the party to make it a "gigantic mammoth" by the end of the year, the party's secretary for publicity, Dr Eddison Zvobgo, said yesterday.

He said in an interview that the exercise would be carried out under the personal direction of the Prime Minister, Mr Mugabe, in his capacity as president of the party.

"The president of the party has now called upon the central committee and provincial, district and branch executive committees to go flat out in rebuilding the party."

Dr Zvobgo, who is the Minister of Local Government and Housing, said Mr Mugabe had assumed personal leadership of the restructuring exercise.

Further meetings and arrangements to reconstruct the party would be announced by a commis-

sariat headed by the Minister of Mines, Mr Maurice Nyagumbo, and Mr Major Urimbo, the party's national political commissar and MP for Victoria.

UNANIMOUS

Dr Zvobgo confirmed that the central committee had at its last meeting resolved that Mr Edgar Tekere should be removed from his powerful party job of secretary-general.

"The vote was unanimous," he said.

"The central committee felt that Mr Tekere, for a variety of reasons, was unable to continue as secretary-general of the party," Dr Zvobgo said.

At the moment the

Prime Minister as president of the party, and the Deputy Prime Minister, Mr Simon Muzenda, as vice-president of the party had taken over Mr Tekere's responsibilities.

Mr Tekere would continue to be a member of the party and MP for Mashonaland Central.

At the weekend the former Minister of Manpower Planning and Development announced he had lost his job as secretary-general of ZANU (PF).

He said he was now a task man and that as a member of the party he would continue calling for the revival of the revolution which he said was "decaying".

CSO: 4700/349

ZIMBABWE

BRIEFS

PASSPORT CLAMP--Bulawayo--A senior passport officer said here yesterday that his office no longer accepted cables from outside the country as sufficient reason to issue recipients with passports on an emergency basis. The officer said: "I have had to take that decision because my office had been receiving an unusually large number of people with cables from abroad wishing to use them as justification to get passports as a matter of urgency." He said he had also stopped processing passport applications from Zimbabwean residents in Zambia because Zimbabwe's High Commission in Zambia could deal with such applications. [Text] [Salisbury THE HERALD in English 11 Aug 81 p 3]

TUNNEL APPROVED--The Cabinet has approved the multi-million dollar Darwendale tunnel project and details of the loan finance are now being worked out, the Minister of Local Government and Housing, Dr Eddison Zvobgo, said yesterday. The Salisbury City Council has already approved the scheme and has been paying \$82 000 a month, almost \$1 million a year, to keep the tender open. When the city budget was presented at the end of last month, councillors were told the Government was still considering the request for loan funds. With a cost of more than \$36 million for the tunnel and all its associated works, including the part of the project already completed, the scheme will bring water from Darwendale to the Morton Jaffray Works at Lake McIlwaine. The 15 km tunnel was first mooted in 1972 and the final design worked out last year. The tunnel was preferred over the alternative of a pipeline because it was cheaper, would cost less to maintain and would last for generations. It will bring an extra 315 million litres of water a day to the city. [Text] [Salisbury THE HERALD in English 11 Aug 81 p 1]

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